

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Columbia, S. C. Staff
Friday, May 15, 1931

ARMED POSSE SEEKS NEGRO

Attacker Is Trailed Into South Carolina.

Special to The State.

Lancaster, May 14.—A posse of several hundred citizens of North and South Carolina headed by Sheriff Cliff Fowler of Union county North Carolina and Sheriff L. F. Dabney of Lancaster county in conducting a search of the western section of the county for a Negro who assaulted a young white woman, mother of a seven-weeks-old infant, in the vicinity of Marshville, N. C., Wednesday morning.

The Negro was trailed to Lancaster county after an all night search and today was said to have broken in a Negro house where he obtained food. He was seen by Sheriff Dabney in the vicinity of Riverside, seven miles north of Lancaster, where he disappeared into a dense patch of woods. In a few minutes after the news was brought to Lancaster, hundreds of men armed with shotguns and a varied assortment of weapons left to join in the search. The temper of the posse was grim and determined, but no violence is anticipated in Lancaster county, according to officials.

Marshville, N. C., May 14.—(AP)—An armed posse, including North Carolina and South Carolina officers, tonight continued its search for Wilson Autry, 20, believed to be the Negro who yesterday attacked a young mother at her home near here.

The Negro today was believed to have been surrounded near the South Carolina line but apparently made good his escape, from his pursuers.

Men from Pageland and Lancaster, S. C., and from Monroe and Marshville, N. C., and adjacent districts, joined in the search.

The woman, wife of a well known young Union county farmer, and mother of a seven-weeks-old baby, was reported in a serious condition yesterday. Her condition was somewhat improved today.

She said the Negro attacked her while she was working in her garden, choked her into unconsciousness and threatened to cut her throat.

AIKEN NEGRO EXONERATED OF ATTACK ON WHITE WOMAN

Aiken, S. C.—One of the most unusual occurrences that this county has known of was known of this week. The court of general sessions was in progress here and Belton Wiggins was on trial for attempt assault on a white woman. The woman swore that she recognized Wiggins as the

man who attempted to seize her. The jury was carried to some of the alleged crime which is between Warrenville and Cloreville. It was testified by witnesses of defense that Wiggins was in Augusta, Ga., at the time of the alleged attack. It seems that the alibi set forth by the defense Attorneys were sustained by the who acquitted the colored boy.

Anderson, S. C. Staff
Friday, May 15, 1931

NEGRO ATTACKER MAKES GETAWAY

Man Sought for N. C. Crime Believed to Have Slip- ped Through Posse.

Lancaster, May 15.—(P)—A negro hunted since Wednesday in connection with an attack on a Union county, North Carolina, woman, was believed today to have slipped through a ring of armed men thrown around a woods where he was thought last night to have been hiding.

No trace of the negro could be found in the woods this morning.

The search was transferred to a woods near Riverside, three miles from here, after reports were received that a store had been entered there last night. Officers believed the fugitive broke into the store to obtain food.

The woman, wife of a well known young farmer, who was in a serious condition for some time after the attack, was reported somewhat recovered today.

Sheriffs Clifford Fowler, of Union county, North Carolina, and L. F. Dabney, of Lancaster county, aided by other county and city officers, directed the search for the woman's attacker.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
Saturday, June 27, 1931

CHILD ASSAULTED IN JASPER COUNTY

19-year-old Former Negro Convict Arrested and Identified

Ridgeland, June 26.—(P): A 19-year-old negro who was released from the state penitentiary but two

weeks ago was arrested and charged with criminally attacking an eight-year-old white girl on a farm five miles from here at noon today.

Jasper county officers left here late this afternoon with the negro, Leroy Graham, presumably for the state penitentiary at Columbia. The negro had served a term there for housebreaking.

Without hesitation, the child identified him as her attacker. Shortly after the attack, Graham had been arrested near the farm, two weeks ago.

The child's arms and face were scratched and her neck was bruised, which she said was the result of being choked by her assailant. Dr. C. H. Ryan, who attended the girl shortly after the attack, administered chloroform because of her nervous condition. She is not thought to be seriously ill, however.

The girl had been left in the home with her two-year-old sister, while her mother worked in the fields. She said she was dragged about 50 yards from the house to some swampland, where the attack took place.

Left there by her assailant, she went to a neighbor's house for aid and her mother was called. Graham, local officers said, has served jail terms twice for robbery.

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Back in Penitentiary

Columbia, June 26.—(P): Leroy Graham, 19-year-old negro, was back in the state penitentiary tonight from which he was freed two weeks ago. Jasper county officers brought him here, following his arrest near Ridgeland on a charge of attacking an eight-year-old white girl today.

Flournoy, S. C. News
Saturday, June 27, 1931

NEGRO 'ATTACKS' GIRL OF FIVE

RIDGELAND, S. C., June 26 — (P)—A 19-year-old negro who was released from the state penitentiary but two weeks ago was arrested and charged with criminally attacking a five-year-old white girl on a farm five miles from here at noon today.

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Lynchings-1931

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Alleged Killer Returned By Birmingham Officers

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., April 25.—
(AP)—Council Dixon, Birmingham negro,
was captured here today and turned over
to Birmingham officers as the negro who
attacked a white girl in Birmingham
and killed her mother on April 3.

C. W. Parrish, Jefferson County Ala.,
deputy sheriff and the chief of the Bir-
mingham homicide squad left here this
afternoon for Birmingham with the al-
leged killer

NEGRO IS ARRESTED ON ATTACK CHARGE

CHATTANOOGA, April 25.—(AP)—
Council Dixon, 38-year-old negro,
wanted in Birmingham on charges of
murder and for attacking three wom-
en there April 3, was arrested here
last night and held for Alabama au-
thorities. He admitted he was the
negro sought in connection with the
attack, but denied his guilt.

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

TRIAL OF SHERMAN TEX. LYNCHERS IS POSTPONED AGAIN

Sherman Mob Member Gets Two Year Sentence

AUSTIN, Tex.—(ANP)—The second member of the mob that lynched George Hughes at Sherman and set fire to the jail, was found guilty and sentenced to two years in prison here Wednesday.

J. B. McCasland, the member of the mob, was found guilty of rioting and admitted that he was in the group that set the fire in which Hughes was burned to death. The first man tried was convicted on charges of arson.

Charges are pending against 13 defendants alleged to have burned the courthouse, the jail and destroyed government property in the mob of Hughes.

An Item for Tuskegee Et Al.

J. B. McCasland, 19-year-old white youth, has been convicted by a jury at Austin, Texas on the charge of arson. He was the first of 14 to be brought to trial in connection with the lynching of a negro at Sherman, Texas when the jail was burned by mob. Young McCasland was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. It was announced that the trial of the others will go on at once.

The negro victim was guilty of a brutal crime, but the dragging of his dead body, after he had perished in the flames, through the negro section of Sherman was itself a brutal procedure. The facts of the case will appear in the lynching statistics issued by Tuskegee University and certain organizations concerned with interracial relations. But the statement of the facts about the lynching should be accompanied by the record of the legal punishment of the mob members.

By showing what the states of the south and of the country are doing to prevent lynchings more effective results in eliminating mob violence will be obtained than by a mere statement of the number of lynchings. The whole story should be told.

AUSTIN, Texas, Jan. 21.—ANP—Trials of fourteen men charged with rioting at Sherman, when the courthouse was burned and George Hughes, charged with assault, was killed, will not be held here during this term of court, it was announced by District Judge J. D. Brooks. The cases were brought here from Dallas and set for January 19, when it was decided popular sentiment was so strong in favor of releasing the men that it would be impossible to secure an impartial trial. Other cases on the docket will make it impossible to undertake the riot trials during the present term, it was announced.

Sherman Rioters Are Still Free; Postpone Trial

AUSTIN, Tex., Jan. 23.—Trials of 14 men charged with rioting at Sherman when the courthouse was burned and George Hughes, charged with assault, was killed, will not be held here during this term of court, according to an announcement made by District Judge J. D. Brooks.

The cases brought here from Dallas and set for Jan. 19 when it was decided popular sentiment was so strong in favor of releasing the men that it would be impossible to secure a conviction. Other cases on the docket will make it impossible to undertake the trials during the present term.

TEXAS MOB MEMBER GIVEN 2-YEAR TERM

AUSTIN, Texas, July 1.—(A)—J. B. McCasland, of Sherman, Texas, faced a two-year prison sentence in connection with the burning May 9, 1930, of the Grayson county courthouse. He pleaded guilty yesterday to a charge of rioting.

Charges are pending against 13 other defendants, alleged to have burned the courthouse and to have conspired to lynch George Hughes, a negro charged with criminal assault on a white woman. Hughes perished in the fire.

Lynchings-1931

Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

GIRL ATTACKED AT GRAVE**Mob Hunts Negro Who Assaults****Her at Mother's Tomb.**

BROWNSVILLE, Texas, Jan. 22. —(UP)—Crowds of angered citizens milled tonight through the streets while a widespread man-hunt got under way for a negro who attacked a young girl as she was kneeling over her mother's grave in a cemetery here.

The girl was reported in a serious condition.

Citizens took up arms and joined the search. Hundreds of men milled through the streets. Police headquarters was besieged by scores of angry citizens.

All highways out of the city were patrolled. Police and citizens searched the colored section for the girl's attacker.

**Beaumont Girl Says
Negro Suspect One
Who Assaulted Her****BEAUMONT, Tex., July 22 (AP).—**

A 40-year-old negro man, positively identified by a 19-year-old girl as the man who criminally attacked her Tuesday night after forcing her young man escort to flee the scene, was being held in jail here today as officers prepared to file charges against him.

Spencer Burks, young man friend to the girl, also identified the negro. The man was apprehended by the sheriff yesterday at noon. His arrest brought to a close a night and day search by officers who loosed bloodhounds on the attacker's trail.

Lynchings-1931

Virginia

3477

Rape; Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

**Rich Man's Testimony Saves Man
from Girl who Thot She was Raped**

DANVILLE, Va.—After spending several months in jail awaiting trial on charges of raping fourteen-year-old Bonnie Williams, 111 E. Frank Ross was dismissed in the corporation court last week.

Ross was positively identified by the girl although all medical testimony failed to confirm any evidence of an attack.

E. C. Arey, prominent white citizen of Danville, put the girl's rape story to flight when he declared that on the day the attack was alleged to have taken place, Ross was working in his garden. In spite of this, however, an all white jury deliberated for two hours before they finally agreed to an acquittal.

According to information obtained after the trial it was learned that after the girl reported she had been outraged, police suspected Ross for no other reason than that he had formerly been convicted on minor offenses. They showed the girl the photograph of the man and permitted her to study it a long while. Then they took her before a group of men who had been rounded up and she identified Ross from the group.

Lynchings-1931

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

JURY'S VERDICT REACHED AFTER ONLY 34 MINUTES

Norfolk, Va.
Nine New Witnesses
Place Mrs. Skaggs In
North Carolina

ON JANUARY 6TH Youth Once Condemned To Die Freed By New Evidence

(Sidelights on trial on page 5.
History of case on page 2.)

By P. BERNARD YOUNG, Jr.

William Harper moved out of the shadow of the electric chair Friday night as a free man, not guilty of criminally attacking Mrs. Dorothy Skaggs, a white Portsmouth woman, because a big parade of new witnesses, all white, offered unrefuted evidence of his innocence during the sensational four-day trial. A jury took only 34 minutes and one ballot to agree that the woman's charges had been repudiated beyond the shadow of reasonable doubt.

It was the evidence of these new witnesses, and others, white and colored, who had also testified at the trial of the 22-year-old youth, at which he was convicted of the electric chair, that substantiated the claims of defense counsel that Mrs. Skaggs was never in Norfolk on the night she said the attack took place. That Harper nor anyone else ever raped her, that she was actually in North Carolina on the night in question with a married man, and that her accusations were made in the hope of covering up her escapades from her husband who was stationed with a naval unit on the West Coast.

Prosecution's Case Shattered

Throughout the bitterly contested trial witness after witness swore to facts that shattered the prosecution's case and so clearly established Harper's guiltlessness that it was never even necessary to place him on the stand

to repudiate the confession which the defendant has said repeatedly police "scared" from him.

The entire prosecution's case, as at the first trial, was built upon the uncorroborated charges of Mrs. Skaggs and this now repudiated confession.

Against this evidence the defense offered the testimony of a score of persons who "wanted to see justice done" even if, as in some cases, it would prove detrimental to them personally to give their testimony.

This testimony of defense witnesses withstood every effort of the prosecution to break it down during the cross-examination. While discrepancies as to the exact time various witnesses saw Mrs. Skaggs elsewhere than in Norfolk on January 6 existed, the crucial fact that she could not have been in Norfolk at any time between 6:31 p. m., January 6 until between 6 and 7 a. m., January 7 was vouched for by at least nine witnesses, all of them white men or women, who positively denied motives which would tend to make them swear falsely.

Climax of Trial

The climax of the trial was reached Thursday when W. P. Kidd, Portsmouth restaurant operator, and Judge Tom E. Gilman of the Norfolk County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, went on the stand.

Kidd testified that he had taken Mrs. Skaggs to a North Carolina road-house near Elizabeth City on the night she had sworn she was attacked in Upton's Lane off Commercial Place in Norfolk, and that he had been with her until about 6 a. m. the next morning.

Kidd went on the stand at 12:35 o'clock recess, after which he returned to the stand at 2:15 and remained on the stand until 4:45. His total time on the stand was 2 hours and 45 minutes, and during this time, under questioning by the prosecution, the defense, and Judge William H. Sargeant, who presided, he stuck to every detail of his account of his and Mrs. Skaggs' movements on the night in question.

When Kidd first took the stand Attorney William H. Starkey, chief defense counsel, who had associated with him Frank L. Robart, moved that E. Skaggs, the prosecuting witness' husband, be excluded from the room. Skaggs was ruled out of the room by Judge Sargeant over Commonwealth Attorney Harry E. McCoy's strenuous objections, on the dual grounds that he might be called as a witness himself and that his presence intimidated other witnesses.

Immediately after Kidd took the stand following the recess he was asked by Mr. Starkey if he had talked to Mr. Skaggs or been spoken to by him during the recess. He said he had

Star Witness On Stand

Kidd continued, saying that he had first told Chief of Police J. M. Broughton of Portsmouth that he had been with Mrs. Skaggs in North Carolina on January 6. This was sometime after Feb. 3, he added, after Chief Broughton had questioned him three times. His first reluctance to tell he was because, being a married man, he wanted to protect himself. His wife now knows all about it, he said.

Kidd stated that he told Judge Gilman, who is his attorney, that he wished Mrs. Skaggs would confess. Mrs. Skaggs had told him, he said, that her husband was returning from the West Coast and that she wished to have the case dropped before his return. Neither he nor Judge Gilman offered her any inducements, Kidd testified, to confess, as Judge Gilman later testified she did after the first trial in January.

He said that he and Mrs. Skaggs, upon the advice of Judge Gilman, came to Commonwealth's Attorney McCoy's office on February for the same purpose, "to tell the truth." He said they were told by somebody to go, after waiting to see Mr. McCoy more than an hour.

Sticks To His Story

Considerable of the testimony referred to other things than where he and Mrs. Skaggs was on the night of January 6, but Kidd never changed his story that he met her at 6:31 on that date by previous arrangement, left immediately for the North Carolina road-house, arrived there between 8 and 9 p. m., and left about one, stopping off for a few hours at a friend's home, where he, Mrs. Skaggs, and Ward Lake Ashmore, who was with them, took some drinks.

He arrived in Portsmouth the following morning (Jan. 7), he said, about 6 a. m. and put her out about one block from the home of Mrs. Katherine Ketcham, who lived in the apartment adjoining that occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Kidd. He admitted seeing several of the other persons who testified at the trial that they had seen both him and Mrs. Skaggs in North Carolina on Jan. 6.

He said he saw Mrs. Skaggs' hand bleeding just before they left the North Carolina roadhouse and that blood was now on the upholstery of his automobile door. Mrs. Skaggs had said her fingers were hurt in a scuffle with Harper.

He fixed the date as January 6 definitely, he asserted, because "I closed my place of business for 30 days on January 8 and this trip was the Tuesday before January 8." Dances at that time were held each Tuesday and Thursday at the road-house in question.

Identified Woman For Police

He said when he was taken to identify Mrs. Skaggs by Detectives Leon Nowitzky, of Norfolk, Richard Journee

of Portsmouth, and another whom he did not know. "They pulled and pushed me and tried to make me say I was mistaken about her, but I told them I was positive," he declared.

Gilman On Stand

When Judge Gilman took the stand he said Mrs. Skaggs had admitted to him on Feb. 23 that she was in North Carolina on the night she said she was attacked, that her charges were untrue, and that she would like the case dropped. If it was not dropped, she dropped. If it was not dropped, she quoted her as saying, she would stick to her original story. The only times he said he had seen Mrs. Skaggs, Judge Gilman asserted, was when she came to his office and when she later went to Mr. McCoy's office for the conference which never took place.

At this point in the testimony Mr. McCoy objected when Mr. Starkey asked the witness: "Did she admit that she was in North Carolina on the night she said she was attacked?"

Starkey Charges "Blocking"

Mr. Starkey heatedly exclaimed: "Why does the Commonwealth's Attorney try to block a full disclosure in this case. I have not objected to his evidence. This drew a sharp reply from Mr. McCoy. They were called to order by the court.

When Judge Gilman resumed his testimony he denied that he ever offered Mrs. Skaggs any inducement, presumably a promise that the case would be dropped as was her desire for it, to make her admission that her charges were untrue, Judge Gilman said, he told her she ought to tell Mr. McCoy.

The Portsmouth jurist then related how, after considerable difficulty, he arranged a conference with Mr. McCoy, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, John M. Arnold, Chief of Police S. W. Ironmonger, and Inspector of Detectives T. L. Petty, on February 25. He added that Kidd and Mrs. Skaggs were at the office to give the same information they had given him, but that the Norfolk officials did not talk to either.

On cross examination by the Commonwealth's Attorney, Judge Gilman replied to a question whether Mrs. Skaggs had not said she would tell the same true story if the case was not dropped, by saying, "I don't know about the true story, but she said she would tell the same story she had told at the first trial if the case should be tried again."

State's Case Collapses

With the testimony of Kidd, and Judge Gilman the state's case against Harper was generally believed to have collapsed. The balance of the trial was in reality a mere formality, during which additional defense witnesses gave unshaken corroboration to this evidence of Harper's innocence and the state, neither by cross-examination nor rebuttal prosecution witnesses, was able to present convincing evidence pointing to Harper's guilt.

Early Phases of Trial

As reported in last week's Journal and Guide, the jury was quickly picked. The defense outlined the main grounds on which it expected to prove, as it subsequently did, the absolute innocence of the accused.

Mrs. Skaggs went on the stand Tuesday and was never called back. When she testified she related the "same

story" of the attack and admitted that she had told Judge Gilman that she was in North Carolina on the night she said she was attacked, but that it was a lie told in an effort to have the case thrown out of court before her husbands' return. She admitted she had been identified at her home and at Police headquarters by several people as the one they saw in North Carolina.

Sharp Clashes Frequent

Cross-examination of Mrs. Skaggs by defense counsel was permitted by the court only after a sharp clash between him and Mr. McCoy, who had asked that she be excused following his questioning of her. Judge Sargeant ruled Mr. Starkey should be allowed to cross-examine her immediately. Mr. Starkey warned Mrs. Skaggs that he expected to contradict her entire testimony, but she stuck to her story except for two marked variations from the original.

Other prosecution witnesses, including police officers then went on the stand and related the circumstances surrounding Harper's entrance into the case as the alleged attacker, the securing of his "confession," and offered opinion as to his mental status, which was said to be that of a 10 or 12 year old child.

None of the prosecution witnesses was able to add anything to the state's evidence beyond that offered at the first trial. From beginning to end, the effort to convict Harper was based on his repudiated confession and Mrs. Skaggs' accusation and identification.

"Identification" Point Raised

All of the police officers who were questioned regarding it said they had not furnished Mrs. Skaggs with any description of Harper. Mrs. J. F. Brittan, of 601 Fourth St., Portsmouth, swore in an affidavit and testified under oath in court, that Mrs. Skaggs not only admitted to her that the charges against Harper were a "frame-up" but that she had been given a description of the accused youth. Mrs. Katharine Ketcham, to whose home Mrs. Skaggs went after Kidd said she put her out of his car following the return from North Carolina, testified that the woman came to her home about 11 p. m. on January 6. Kidd and several of the other witnesses directly contradicted this.

Other Defense Witnesses

Other defense witnesses were Mrs. Rex W. Rodgers, with whom Mrs. Skaggs had lived previous to the alleged attack; Rex W. Rodgers, her husband; W. H. Jeffrey, a private detective; Mrs. Brittan; Charles M. Sickler, a sailor; Robert Proud, who lives with the Rodgers at 1808 McDaniel St., Portsmouth; Officer H. F. Frank of the Norfolk police force; Phillips W. Thomas, a member of the first jury which convicted Harper; R. A. Caffey, an officer of the local Coca-Cola bottling plant, where Harper worked; Mrs. Ada Smith, of 620 E. Brambleton Ave., Norfolk; a Mr. Anderson, who was Mrs. Skaggs' music teacher; H. C. Buckingham, of the Levy-Page Co., which sold and later accepted the return of the "banjo case" which figured so prominently in both trials; Mrs. Bertha Jordan, of 331 Lincoln St., Portsmouth; Miss Rosa Johnson (the first colored witness), who had been called to testify to Mrs. Skaggs' use of and knowledge of veronal, a drug, which defense counsel claimed she used despite her denial of its use or knowledge concerning it; J. H. Jordan, husband of Mrs. Bertha Jordan; Ward Lake "Kingfish" Ashmore, a sailor; G. H. Canfield of the

3478

J. B. S. Arizona; J. L. McPherson, of North Carolina; D. D. Whitehead, who works at the Taylor-Parker Co., building adjoining Upton's Lane; Dr. E. W. Howard, the Portsmouth physician who examined her following her report of the attack.

Also Miss Bernice Arnold, of 1611 Broad Creek Road, who said she was Harper's sweetheart; Miss Carrie Arnold, sister of Bernice; Mrs. Alice Malory, also a sister of Bernice's and O. F. Harrell, of Camden, N. C.

Their Testimony Summarized

These witnesses testified further that Mrs. Skaggs was in North Carolina on the night of the alleged attack or that they had seen her in Portsmouth at the time she said the attack took place; that they were in the immediate vicinity of Upton's Lane during the hours she said she was attacked and lay unconscious until 10:30 but that they saw nothing unusual nor heard any screams; that upon repeated trips through the lane they saw no one lying in it during the hours between 6:30 and 1 p. m. that the lane was lighted and could be seen through from Commercial Place to Water Street; that Harper was a steady worker; that he habitually made calls to his sweetheart from a Brambleton Ave. shop about 5:30 and presumably made one on January 6 as he said he did; and that medical examinations showed no evidences of bruises or criminal attack.

Sudden Ending Unexpected

Before the defense and prosecution both rested their cases Friday afternoon several prosecution witnesses took the stand. Some of them had been recalled and two testified for the first time.

W. P. Sellers, white, said he heard a scream on January 6 about 6:30 while standing on Commercial Place at a point about two city blocks away from Upton's Lane. He admitted upon cross-examination that he thought at that time that the scream came from a building in front of which he was standing.

Nowitzky was called and then recalled. He said that Harper first told him the woman carried a "banjo case." The second time he described the occasion when he and two other detectives took Kidd to identify Mrs. Skaggs. He admitted handling Kidd roughly, but said Kidd's final word to them was a positive identification of her as the woman he had with him in North Carolina.

J. S. Dement, a new prosecution witness, said he saw Mrs. Skaggs on Feb. 3 in Portsmouth between 7 and 8. Several other witnesses had said they had seen Mrs. Skaggs again at the roadhouse in North Carolina sometime after 8 p. m. on that night and had discussed her as the woman they had seen on January 6, the night she said she was raped. On cross-examination by Mr. Starkey, it was brought out that Dement was a former shipmate of the prosecutrix's husband.

New Angle Develops

Officer Helvin was called to the stand. He testified that when he went on the Upton's Lane at 1 p. m. on the night in question he found the jury room doors open. It was part of the prosecution case to contend that Mrs. Skaggs may have been dragged into a building adjoining the lane, thus accounting for those who passed through it not seeing her.

Both sides rested their cases at 3:10 Friday afternoon. Mr. McCoy made his final arguments following detailed instructions to the jury, in which the two sides were warned to not upon the expected anything worse than a hung

juror and most of those present had confidently predicted the verdict would be "not guilty." Outside there stood hundreds of people, Negroes and whites, who had begun to gather several hours earlier in anticipation of the trial's completion. The courthouse porch, the lawn, and the walks around the building were full of a surging mass of people. "Take your seats, gentlemen," the order came to those within the courtroom. Then the jurors came in. Their expressions gave no clue to their verdict. Judge Sargeant asked and was told they had reached a verdict. He ordered Harper to stand up. The court clerk took the verdict from the jury foreman and read: "We, the jury, find the defendant not guilty."

Prosecutors Arguments

He asserted his intention to be fair both to the Commonwealth and to Harper. "It would mean nothing to me," he said, "to send an innocent man to the electric chair." He described the testimony as "a mass of evidence, winding in and out." His purpose, he added, was to sift this evidence and lay before the jury what he considered the essential, true facts. He too warned the jury that the charges must be proved beyond a reasonable doubt before it would be justified in bringing in a verdict of guilty.

He asserted that a lot of "lying has been going on in this case and in this courtroom," indicating that he believed most of it had been on the part of defense witnesses. He referred particularly to two defense witnesses, Ashmore and Canfield, who admitted they lied to police before the second trial began. These men said they lied at first to protect Kidd, who was their friend, but that after he offered his own testimony they felt no further need of concealing facts.

Mr. McCoy did not refer to Judge Gilman's testimony concerning Mrs. Skaggs' admission of the falsity of her charges.

Starkey Addresses the Jury

Mr. Starkey reviewed the evidence as presented in court, stressing the point that white people had no conceivable motive in perjurying themselves by testifying for a Negro against a white woman, "especially in a case of this kind."

He flayed the police officials. "I'll give my witnesses to Mr. McCoy again," he shouted, "but I have learned something in this case. I'll never give one of them to the police department again. If they had done their duty in this case and made the proper investigation, it never would be here now."

Mr. Starkey asked for a verdict of not guilty. Mr. McCoy, in contrast to his demands at the first trial, did not ask for a death verdict. He concluded his rebuttal remarks by saying "These are the facts as I see them. Conviction in this case carries either the death penalty, life imprisonment, or any term not less than five years. With this I leave the case in your hands."

Before Mr. McCoy's final arguments, Mr. Starkey had asked permission to be excused, pleading an indisposition which had bothered him throughout the trial. He was obviously on the verge of exhaustion.

Mr. McCoy had closed his final argument as the courtroom clock signalled the hour of 6 p. m. Immediately the jury filed out to consider the case to contend that Mrs. Skaggs to render its verdict. At 6:37 it filed into the room.

Tensely Dramatic Moment

It was a tense, dramatic moment. Here was a man once doomed to death. Would his fate be the same again in the face of the sensational new evidence produced in court at his second trial? Few in the courtroom expected anything worse than a hung

juror and most of those present had confidently predicted the verdict would be "not guilty."

Outside there stood hundreds of people, Negroes and whites, who had begun to gather several hours earlier in anticipation of the trial's completion. The courthouse porch, the lawn, and the walks around the building were full of a surging mass of people.

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He ordered Harper to stand up. The court clerk took the verdict from the jury foreman and read:

"We, the jury, find the defendant not guilty."

Robbery Charged Dismissed

Smiling, Harper took his seat. Mr. McCoy asked that the robbery charge against him be dismissed, because, he explained, in a trial on that charge only the same testimony would be available as in the attack case trial. Judge Sargeant agreed to dismiss the robbery charge and left the bench after thanking the jury.

That was a signal for the newspapermen, lawyers, and others privileged to be in the courtroom—both white and colored—to swarm around Harper and congratulate him. He left almost immediately in company with Journal and Guide reporters and his father, Samuel Harper, a Spanish War veteran.

Will Section 4415 Stand?

THE recent case of supposed rape in the City of Norfolk has led to the unearthing of a statute in the Virginia Code, Section 4415, under which a woman may accuse a man of rape, and with the consent of the court, make a deposition and not appear in court against him. The mere fact that accusation has been made is equivalent to conviction and that is the way of the matter generally. Such is the safeguard thrown around women and a further safeguard is granted them by newspapers which refuse to print the name of the woman raped.

This sense of hallow out of which this law came has been used time and time again, by women desiring to cover up their own dirt, and send innocent men to their death. In or near Bristol, Va. last year a Mrs. Sam Hagey, a white woman, said a Negro attacked her and a mob of 300 men sought a victim until a white doctor testified that she had sought to kill herself and yelled "attack" to cover up her suicide attempt. 3-21-31

It goes without saying that the legislators who wrote this law into the Code were thinking only of the protection of women from further humiliation and embarrassment. But fortunately, the framers of the United States Constitution and its Amendments thought in terms of the protection of a person accused of a crime. We quote the 6th Amendment—"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district, wherein the crime shall have been committed . . . and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; TO BE CONFRONTED WITH THE WITNESSES AGAINST HIM; to have compulsory process for obtaining

witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense."

It appears to us, a layman and however, that the Virginia statute would not have a chance before the Supreme Court of the United States. And we submit that in the interest of justice it should be repealed.

news
LYNCHBURG
VIRGINIA

MAR 10 1931

The Norfolk Negro who was convicted of attempted rape on perjured testimony has now been acquitted. He is free. But what of the suffering he has undergone and of the time he has spent in jail in the shadow of the electric chair? And what of the perjurers? Are they to suffer only exposure to public opprobrium or are they to be sent to prison where they belong?

Woman's "Abnormal Psychology" Almost Killed This Negro

Man Who Signed "Confession" Finds Out After Conviction His Alleged Victim Was In Friend's Home At Time He Said He Committed Crime.

Colonial 3-7-31

NEW YORK, March 5—How an innocent colored man was narrowly saved from a legal lynching, due to the false accusation of a white woman suffering from "abnormal psychology," is told in a clipping received by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from the Danville (Va.) Register.

The Register tells how the Negro, William Harper, "was arrested, hustled to the third degree room at the Norfolk police headquarters, given 'the works' and signed a complete confession of his crime, admitting all the details alleged," being then convicted by a jury and sentenced to death.

But thereafter two residents of Portsmouth came forward "and testified that at the time, the alleged crime was supposed to have been committed across the Elizabeth river in Norfolk, the young woman was in their home. A man has told defense attorneys and the commonwealth's attorney that he had an engagement with the young married woman that night and that she could hardly have been lying un-

conscious in Upton's lane at the time she said she was. As a result of this testimony, Judge A. R. Hanckel, in part one of the Corporation Court of Norfolk, yesterday granted the Negro a new trial. He will be acquitted at his retrial."

The Register comments that the Negro "was about to be made the victim of a woman's abnormal psychology."

The N. A. A. C. P. cites this case as one of many such, the victim of the white woman's "abnormal psychology" being more often lynched without trial than given belated justice in a court of law.

Lynchings-1931

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Newport News, Va. Times-Herald
Monday, January 12, 1931

NEGRO'S SANITY INVESTIGATED BY MEDICAL GROUP

**Trial of William Harper, 22 Year
Old Negro Charged With
Criminal Attack on Young
Portsmouth Woman, May Be
Delayed Pending Report of
Examining Physicians.**

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 12.—(P)—De-
lay in the trial of William Harper, 22
year old negro, charged with criminal
assault upon a young Portsmouth
married woman, loomed as a possi-
bility today, following the announce-
ment by physicians examining Har-
per's sanity that it might require a
month to reach a decision.

The trial is scheduled to get un-
der way Thursday morning in Cor-
poration Court before Judge William H.
Sargeant.

Dr. W. F. Drewry, director of the
Bureau of Mental Hygiene of the
Department of Public Welfare of Vir-
ginia, conducted a physical and men-
tal examination of the negro yester-
day assisted by Dr. George W. Brown,
superintendent of the Eastern State
Hospital at Williamsburg, and Dr.
G. R. Berkeley, Norfolk city physi-

CONFESSES SHE "FRAMED" BOY IN RAPE CHARGE

DANVILLE, Va., March 4.—Wil-
liam Harper, local youth, who nar-
rowly escaped death at the hands
of a blood thirsty white mob last
December when Elizabeth Rivers, a
young married white woman named
him as her attacker explaining her
absence from home one night to her
husband, and who was found guilty
upon prejured testimony of the wo-
man in the circuit court here, has
been admitted to retrial at which
he will be acquitted, through a con-

fession made by the young woman.

The Rivers woman returned home
near dawn one morning from a ren-
dezvous with a young white mill
worker, to confront her husband,
whom she believed to be out of the
city. To explain her absence from
home all night, she claimed that
a colored man had knocked her un-
conscious, dragged her to a deserted
house, and there had attacked her.
Asked to name the man, she point-
ed out Harper, who was saved from
the mob only to be given the 'third
degree' by the police until he made
a complete "confession" of the
crime. Harper was convicted upon
the confession, but defense witnesses
were later found, who testified that
at the hour of the alleged attack
the Rivers woman was seen in the
company of her lover by white
neighbors. On submission of this
testimony a retrial was granted, and
faced with the accusers, the white
woman made a complete confession,
which exonerated Harper.

DEFENSE LISTS CONTENTIONS IN UNUSUAL CASE

Journal and Guide
Prosecutor Admits

**Changing Her
Story**

STICKS TO IT NOW
Norfolk, Va.
**Sensational Trial May
Last Balance Of
This Week**

(As the Journal and Guide went
to press Wednesday afternoon the
Harper trial was still in progress,
with prospects of lasting all week.
Next week's issue will carry a com-
plete and accurate account.)

The grounds on which the defense
expects to prove the innocence of
William Harper, on trial here this
week for his life for the second time,
on charges of having criminally at-
tacked Mrs. Dorothy Skaggs, white
married woman of Portsmouth, were

outlined by William H. Starkey,
chief defense counsel, in his opening
address to the jury when the trial
got underway Tuesday and were
being vigorously pressed by him and
as vigorously assailed by the prosecu-
tion as the trial proceeded Wednes-
day.

The defense contentions, as outlined
by Mr. Starkey, are:

1. That the reason the plaintiffe saw her purse, after it had been
failed to return to the home of Mr. and recovered, his "face dropped." She
Mrs. R. W. Rodgers, with whom she further testified that in snatching the
lived, on the night she is supposed to pursue the baby carriage was overturn-
have been attacked is that upon several
occasions she had come in very late. Several defense witnesses, in the
in an intoxicated condition and had form of former employers of Boush,
been warned by Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers testified as to his general good rep-
that she would have to leave their home-
it if it happened again.

2. That the evidence would disclose Boush's first trial some of the fac-
that the prosecuting witness was at a roadhouse near Elizabeth City, N. C. on
the night of January 6, the night of the alleged crime, with a married man of
Portsmouth.

3. That she was at the same road-
house on the night of February 3 with
the same man.

Other Defense Points

4. That a conference was held at the
office of Tom E. Gilman, a white Ports-
mouth attorney, at which time she ad-
mitted the falsity of her charges and
expressed a desire to have the case dis-
missed, but that if it was not she would
tell the same story at the second trial.

5. That the music case that played a
such an important part in the first trial when the
plaintiff admitted that she had iden-
tified Boush by his clothing and not by
his face. Defense counsel stressed this
point in his address to the jury and
throughout most of the trial.

6. That Mrs. Skaggs had made con-
flicting statements and that no assault
of J. C. Barnes, C. D. Banworth, W.
S. Selby, Jr., C. F. Seagar, E. E. Cape-
night of January 6, and further that
she was a user of drugs and subject to
delusions.

7. That she was furnished with a
description of Harper before she went
in to identify him as her assailant at
Police Headquarters and that she had
previously been convicted in the Nor-
folk Police Court.

Judge William H. Sargeant, presiding
in Corporation Court No. 1, ruled out
the evidence of her misdemeanor con-
viction as inadmissible in a felony case.

Says She Told A Lie

When Mrs. Skaggs took the stand
Tuesday she admitted that she had told
Mr. Gilman that she was in North Car-
olina on the night in question, but as-
serted that her statement at that time
was "a lie" told when she was not under
oath in the hope of having the case
dismissed so as "to escape the ordeal
of going on the witness stand a second
time."

She then reiterated her previous al-

her purse. She testified that she was
rolling a baby carriage along New-
port Avenue on the night of Jan. 3
and that a Negro snatched her purse
containing about \$3 in cash and checks
worth about \$45, from her arm.

The defense score heavily, however,
when the witness admitted that she
did not see her assailant's face and
that her later identification of Boush
at the police station was due to a
certain extent to the fact that when
she saw her purse, after it had been
failed to return to the home of Mr. and recovered, his "face dropped." She
Mrs. R. W. Rodgers, with whom she further testified that in snatching the
lived, on the night she is supposed to pursue the baby carriage was overturn-
have been attacked is that upon several
occasions she had come in very late. Several defense witnesses, in the
in an intoxicated condition and had form of former employers of Boush,
been warned by Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers testified as to his general good rep-
that she would have to leave their home-
it if it happened again.

It will be remembered that at
Boush's first trial some of the fac-
tors contributing to the jury's disagree-
ment and inclination to free him of
the charges against him were faulty
identification on the part of Miss Mary
Hickey, white, whom the accused was
charged in that trial with attacking
and robbing on the night of Jan. 3;
the alibi of Boush, corroborated by sev-
eral witnesses, showing that he was
nowhere near the scene of the crime;
the defendant's testimony that his al-
leged confession was made because he
was grilled and frightened by officers,
and testimony setting forth Boush's
good character and trustworthiness.

The prosecution was also dealt a se-
rious blow at the first trial when the
plaintiff admitted that she had iden-
tified Boush by his clothing and not by
his face. Defense counsel stressed this
point in his address to the jury and
throughout most of the trial.

The jury in the case was composed
of J. C. Barnes, C. D. Banworth, W.
S. Selby, Jr., C. F. Seagar, E. E. Cape-
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she was a user of drugs and subject to
delusions.

RAPE "VICTIM" CONFESSES SHE FRAMED NEGRO

Norfolk, Va.
COLORED BOY WHO NARROWLY

ESCAPED LYNCHING BY MOB

GIVEN NEW TRIAL

DANVILLE, Va., March 7.—Wil-
liam Harper, local youth, who nar-

rowly escaped death at the hands of
a blood thirsty white mob last De-
cember when Elizabeth Rivers, a
young married white woman named
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upon prejured testimony of the wo-
man in the circuit court here, has
been admitted to retrial at which he
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near dawn one morning from a ren-
dezvous with a young white mill
worker, to confront her husband,
whom she believed to be out of the
city. To explain her absence from
home all night, she claimed that
a colored man had knocked her un-
conscious, dragged her to a deserted
house, and there had attacked her.
Asked to name the man, she pointed
Harper out, who was saved from the
mob only to be given the 'third de-
gree' by the police until he made a
complete "confession" of the crime.
Harper was convicted upon the con-
fession, but defense witnesses were
later found, who testified that at
the hour of the alleged attack the
Rivers woman was seen in the com-
pany of her lover by white neigh-
bors. On submission of this testi-
mony a retrial was granted, and fac-
ed with the accusers, the white wo-
man made a complete confession,
which exonerated Harper.

COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY STILL SILENT ON CASE

Norfolk, Va.
**Widespread Demand
For Grand Jury
Inquiry**

NONE ANTICIPATED

**Presiding Judge Puts
Further Action Up
To McCoy**

No action had been taken by any
court or police officials up to Wed-

3479

nesday afternoon looking toward the indictment of Mrs. Dorothy Skaggs, Portsmouth white woman, whose charges that William Harper attacked her were repudiated last week and the Norfolk youth given his freedom by a jury in Corporation Court.

Any action by which Mrs. Skaggs and other witnesses in the case might be indicted by the grand jury for perjury, or any further investigations in connection with the celebrated case, has been left squarely up to Commonwealth's Attorney Harry E. McCoy, who prosecuted the case against Harper, by Judge William H. Sargeant, who presided at the youth's second trial, and who has publicly stated that further developments would have to be handled by the prosecuting branch of the court.

Declines To Comment

Mr. McCoy declines to comment on the matter except to say that he is now making a full investigation of the great tangle of evidence brought out in the trial. It was the general feeling of responsible persons in legal circles that the Harper case and cases which might develop out of its amazing disclosures are ended, and that despite Mr. McCoy's declaration that "a great deal of lying went on in this case," nobody will ever face trial for false testimony which nearly caused an innocent man's life to be taken.

Harper was first tried in January and his punishment fixed at death by the jury which found him guilty.

It was, however, indicated by Mr. McCoy that if his "careful study of my notes and records" warranted it, he might initiate action against certain witnesses for perjury. Nine witnesses directly contradicted Mrs. Skaggs about her whereabouts on the night she said she was attacked, and a judge of a Portsmouth court and a white woman of Portsmouth both charged she had admitted her story was false.

Meanwhile Chief of Police S. W. Ironmonger refuses to discuss the case from any angle.

Widespread Demand For Action

There has been a widespread demand that an investigation be made and legal action be taken against those witnesses who, under oath, gave untrue testimony. The absolute contradictions existing between prosecution and defense witnesses makes it clear that some of those who testified swore falsely, and the jury's action in freeing Harper suggest strongly that the lying was done by prosecution witnesses.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Skaggs maintains that she has nothing to fear and that she has told the truth each time she has been on the stand. Her husband, M. S. Skaggs, has been quoted as saying he believes the verdict freeing Harper a fair one in the light of the evidence presented in court, but that he still believes his wife is telling the truth.

Defense Counsel Speaks

W. H. Starkey, defense counsel, has attacked not only the testimony of Mrs. Skaggs, but of police officers and others as well. "I certainly think there should be an investigation of the case to settle in the minds of the public how testimony could be adduced that would send an innocent man very nearly to the electric chair, and in less than five weeks, another jury hear a state of facts that show beyond the innocence of the same man beyond any question of a doubt." Mr. Starkey was assisted by Attorney Frank Robert. Both have received many congratulations on the outcome of the case.

"I tried to play fair," Mr. Starkey continued, "As I secured evidence favorable to the accused, I notified the Commonwealth's Attorney and the police in order that we might all check the case together. I cannot understand in the face of the evidence presented to them before the trial, why Harper was again brought before a jury at the tremendous expense to the state of summoning 200 jurors and nearly a hundred witnesses."

Could Recall Grand Jury

The March grand jury was convened last week and its members could be recalled and told by the court to go into any matter the court, the Commonwealth's Attorney, or the jurors themselves might see fit to investigate.

Warrants could also be sworn out by individual citizens or the judge could issue a bench warrant, but that procedure, it is said, would be rather unusual.

Mr. McCoy vigorously prosecuted the case against Harper to the very last and was reported to have said in private he believed Harper guilty despite the mass of evidence to the contrary.

Mrs. Skaggs Whereabouts

Mrs. Skaggs was at her home in Portsmouth on the week-end. Whether she was still there this week could not be verified. Her husband, who is temporarily stationed at the Naval Base here, is under Navy Department orders, having been brought here for the trial from the West Coast by navy officials at the request of Norfolk police.

He has stated that he intends having Mrs. Skaggs live elsewhere than in Norfolk or Portsmouth.

LITTLE ROCK

ARKANSAS

MAR 7 - 1931

A VERY DISQUIETING CASE.

The commonwealth of Virginia has barely escaped sending a Portsmouth Negro to the electric chair for a crime he did not commit.

WILLIAM HARPER, 22, was "identified" by a Portsmouth woman as the man who hit her over the head and assaulted her in that city on the night of Jan. 6. Under pressure, the Negro boy "confessed" the crime to the police and was put on trial for his

life. The woman testified as to all the details of the attack, and though the Negro repudiated his confession, he was given the death sentence.

Fortunately, the lawyer whom the court had assigned to defend the Negro was not satisfied that justice had been done, and he procured a new trial. The second hearing has been held this week. The defense produced nine witnesses to prove that on the evening of the alleged assault, the accused, who was a married woman, had gone off with a married man to a North Carolina roadhouse, where they had spent the night in a drinking-party. The claim of the defense was that the woman had concocted the entire story in order to explain her absence that night. The case was so clear in the mind of the jury that the Negro did not even have to go on the stand a second time to repudiate his "confession." He was acquitted as soon as the jury had conferred among themselves.

To W. H. STARKEY, the defense counsel, and to JUDGE SARGENT, the people of Virginia are indebted for their escape from the

crime of electrocuting an innocent man. How many instances have there been when, with counsel and court less careful, the tragedy that was averted in this instance has been played out to the end? How often have frightened, undefended Negroes confessed to crimes they never committed? How many times have they been railroaded to prison or to the electric chair because bad women wanted to cover up their own misdeeds?

The questions are disquieting. Here in Virginia, under section 4415 of the code, a woman may accuse a man of rape and, with the consent of the court, may make a deposition and not appear in court against him. Accusation has almost been tantamount to conviction.

Young Negro Held After Attacking White Woman

SANDIDGES, VA. March 22—(P)—Charged with beating Mrs. C. L. Vail, white woman attacked while feeding poultry in her yard here yesterday, Calvin Groomes, 20-year-old negro, was arrested this morning and taken immediately to the Lynchburg City Jail for safe keeping.

The youth was arrested after hiding in the mountains during the night. He returned this morning and was found in the barn of a farmer by whom he had been employed.

Mrs. Vail was reported today as somewhat improved, and it was expected that she would recover. She was suffering from bruises and cuts around the head and face, administered with a rock.

CASE TO BE LAID BEFORE APRIL GRAND JURY

Finally Moves For Action

MEETS APRIL 6TH

All Witnesses At Two Trials And Others To Be Called

Demands made by the Journal and Guide and other papers, and the pressure of public opinion generally, this week brought those persons who nearly lied away the life of William Harper a step nearer an accounting at the bar of justice.

The April Corporation Court grand jury which will convene on April 6, will be asked by Commonwealth's Attorney Harry E. McCoy to make a thorough investigation of the case.

Every witness who testified either for the Commonwealth or for the defense at both trials will be summoned by Mr. McCoy to go before the grand jury to testify in the investigation, which is expected to require several days by the examining body, Mr. McCoy said Tuesday.

Harper was charged by Mrs. Dorothy Skaggs, white, of Portsmouth, with criminally attacking and robbing her. The death verdict in the first case was set aside and at a second trial it was conclusively proved by a dozen witnesses, none of whom were at the first trial, not only that Harper was innocent but that, because she was in a North Carolina roadhouse with a married man on the night in question, no attack at all took place.

Under Virginia law, to secure a conviction it is necessary that the Commonwealth choose one of two conflicting statements as a lie and prove it to be a falsehood by the testimony of two or more witnesses. Nine witnesses directly contradicted Mrs. Skaggs story and several others testified that she had admitted her story untrue in private conversations.

Mr. McCoy said that he expected to send every man and woman who testified at either of the Harper trials before the grand jury and that he also expected to send other persons, not heard at either trial, before the examining body. Just who these people are, Mr. McCoy did not say, but approximately 100 witnesses were heard in the two

trials and others were summoned who did not testify.

There have been public demands made in letters to newspaper editors and in local newspapers for further investigations of circumstances and testimony in the Harper case, and it is thought that Mr. McCoy may ask some of the people back of the demands for further action in the case to go before the grand jury.

During the cross-examinations by Mr. McCoy of certain witnesses at the second trial, three of them admitted they had previously told different stories of what had occurred that night, either to Mr. McCoy personally or to Norfolk police officers. They did this they said, to protect themselves or friends, but said they were telling the truth in court for the sake of justice.

In his arguments to the jury at the conclusion of the second trial Mr. McCoy said, after calling the jury's attention to the admissions by various witnesses that they had "lied," about the case out of court, that "there has been a lot of lying going on on this witness stand. When these witnesses come into court and admit they lied to us (To Mr. McCoy and police officers) before coming to court, I don't know when to believe them."

Kidd admitted that he had made a different statement to police officers from the story told on the witness stand and Mrs. J. P. Brittain, another defense witness, contradicted Kidd's testimony that he had not slapped Mrs. Skaggs or pushed her while they were standing near an automobile outside the dance hall and Kidd denied that he had ever struck the woman.

Several of the witnesses testified that Kidd and Mrs. Skaggs left the dance at about 1 o'clock on the morning of January 7 and returned to Portsmouth about 7 o'clock that morning, after visiting the home of J. L. McPherson, about 15 or 20 miles from the dance hall.

Mrs. Skaggs testified she became conscious in Upton's Lane about 10:30 o'clock on the night of January 6, borrowed money with which to get home and that she went to the home of Mrs. Catherine Ketchum on Fifth street, in Portsmouth, that night. She said she arrived there shortly after 11 o'clock, and Mrs. Ketchum corroborated this testimony.

Mr. McCoy said that he did not wish to single out the testimony of any one particular witness who had testified at either trial in the case, but that he felt the whole matter should go before the grand jury for investigation and that the grand jury should be allowed to take whatever action it deemed proper after completing its investigation of the case in order that the "majesty and dignity of the law might be upheld."

An unverified report was current this week that Mrs. Skaggs had gone to Indiana, but this could not be confirmed. Whether she was now in either Norfolk or Portsmouth, where she resided, could not be learned reliably.

Lynchings-1931

Rape, Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

RUANOKE, VA

WORLD NEWS

MAR 18 1931

WHY THIS DELAY?

Norfolk newspapers are quite right in their insistent questioning of Commonwealth's Attorney McCoy to know what he intends to do about the case of William Harper. They would do well to extend their series of inquiries to the Mayor and City Manager, to know what they intend to do about a police department that by threats or otherwise extorted a confession from an innocent man.

William Harper, Norfolk negro, was accused of attacking a white woman of Portsmouth on the streets of Norfolk. Those who are familiar with the courts and alleys in the town-town business section mentioned, and with the number of people who pass at the hours indicated, were

inclined to doubt from the first whether such an event as described could have happened. But when the Negro was put on trial, the woman identified him and described the attack in detail. And then the police introduced what purported to be his confession. There was nothing for the jury to do but to find him guilty, and nothing for the judge to do but to sentence him to electric chair. Had the facts been as stated, the verdict was a proper one.

For this friendless Negro, without means to hire a lawyer, the court assigned counsel from the Norfolk Bar, and the lawyer so assigned, working without compensation, has done a brilliant piece of work in the interests of justice. Rumors came to his attention and he investigated. After discovered evidence was laid before Judge Sargeant, and a new trial ordered. Nine white witnesses, some from Virginia and some from North Carolina, testified at the second trial that at the time of the alleged attack, the woman was on her way to a road house near Elizabeth City, North Carolina, with a man not her husband. That man was produced in court, and testified most unwillingly. The facts were amply

established that the woman was simply not in Norfolk on the night of the alleged crime. She had told of lying unconscious for hours in a Norfolk alley, to cover her absence from home.

For two weeks the Commonwealth's Attorney is said to have been considering whether there is ground for perjury indictments against witnesses at the first trial. For the honor of the courts, it is to be hoped that he will bring this matter to a test. It is time for notice to be given that where a human life is involved, one cannot invent a story and tell it to the judge and jury under oath.

The other side of the case demands equal attention. The Negro says that no actual violence was used, but that without the presence of counsel or friends, he was subjected to all night questioning, and forced under threats to sign a paper of the nature of which he really knew nothing. If the authorities of Norfolk allow this situation to go unchallenged, they need not be surprised if their police department loses public confidence, nor identified him and described the attack in detail. And then the police introduced what purported to be his confession. There was nothing for the jury to do but to find him guilty, and nothing for the judge to do but to sentence him to electric chair. Had the facts been as stated, the verdict was a proper one.

MEN ACCUSED BY WHITE COUPLE DENIED WRIT

NORFOLK, Va.—Proceedings instituted by Alfred E. Spivey in the Norfolk County Circuit Court last Friday to obtain a writ of habeas corpus for Frank Dunn and John McMurray who have been in custody since June 1, charged with criminal assault and robbery, resulted in failure when Judge W. C. Coleman denied the application.

Another hearing will be held before Judge Coleman on Tuesday, July 14, in an attempt to arrange bail for the two men, who were indicted by the Norfolk County grand jury, July 8.

Assault Accused

The events leading up to the arrest of Dunn and McMurray began on the night of May 31 when Thomas B. Storey, 19, white, reported to county police that he and his girl companion had been held up on the Cottage Toll Road by two Negroes and he, Storey, had been robbed and his girl companion assaulted.

Next day, Dunn and McMurray were apprehended by County Officer W. W. Carr, and, according to reports, were identified as the assailants. A preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace Cordell, in whose district the alleged assault occurred, was promised. That was on June 1. No preliminary hearing has ever been held and the men have remained in custody.

Strange Story

A series of unusual circumstances added mystery to the events that led up to the arrest. According to the story told by Storey, he and the girl were returning from Ocean View about 10 o'clock on the night of May 31, in an automobile. Suddenly two men appeared in the road with pistols in their hands, forced the couple to alight from their car and turn over a gold watch and seventy cents which they had.

Then, the account continues, the two men forced the boy and girl to walk across a field and commanded him to lie down with his face in the dirt. Then one of the men assaulted the girl and finally the two were forced to drive away.

REDWOOD CITY, CALIF.

JUL 21 1931

A LESSON FOR LYNCHERS

Last January in Norfolk, Va., it was reported to the police that a young white woman had been attacked by a Negro. On her information the police captured a man whom she identified as her assailant. The Negro presently was put on trial, found guilty and sentenced to die in the electric chair.

Fortunately the defense lawyers did not drop the case at this point. They did some sleuthing, and soon discovered that at the time the crime was supposed to have been committed the woman was not in Norfolk at all, but at a dance hall in a small town 40 miles away.

The Negro was retried and acquitted, and the woman was tried for perjury, convicted and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. Thus the case had a happier ending than it might easily have had.

The principal point that this story raises in one's mind is one connected with the lynchings that still take place in many states when Negroes are accused of similar offenses.

In this Norfolk case the law

was able to correct its initial mistake and furnish at least partial compensation. But if a mob had been dealing with it the mistake would never have been discovered and the victim would have been long past that stage of affairs at which human compensation becomes forever impossible.

There is a moral in this which states and communities that still tolerate lynching would do well to let soak in deeply. It is evident that not all accusations of this kind have a solid foundation in fact.

And it is better never to close the door too hastily on what may prove to be a very reasonable doubt.—Sacramento Bee.

TUCSON, ARIZ.

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

JUL 15 1931

Commentary on Lynching

Baltimore Sun

Norfolk has recently produced a case which, though no mob was involved, might well be used to illustrate the hazards and uncertainties of the mob law which some Southern communities still insist on meting out to Negroes accused of crime against white women.

The Norfolk case is one in which on January 7 a young white woman reported to the police that she had been attacked by a Negro. She gave a detailed circumstantial account of the alleged crime and on her information the police rounded up a suspect whom she identified as her assailant. Prior to the trial the Negro is said to have made a confession to the police, which was later withdrawn and a plea of not guilty entered. On January 29 the Negro was convicted and sentenced to death in the electric chair.

His attorneys did not, however, give up hope. They discovered evidence that the woman victim of the alleged attack had been at a North Carolina dance hall forty miles from Norfolk, at the time she had testified she was unconscious at the scene of the alleged crime. This and other testimony created such a furore that a special grand jury was convoked to review the whole case, with the result that the woman was indicted for perjury. Tried on this indictment last week, she was convicted and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. The Negro, meanwhile, had been acquitted at a second trial of the offense for which he had first been sentenced to die.

This case ought to make those States which still tolerate lynching extremely uneasy. Here is a case in which the law itself came to the bring of a terrible mistake. Since the law was responsible, however, a means of correction and redress was at hand. How many comparable mistakes have been made by irresponsible mobs for whose action there was no redress it is impossible to sav.

Virginia

3480

JUL 18 1937

A Credit to Virginia

WHILE THE Scottsboro case in Alabama is causing great agitation as an alleged example of gross injustice to Negroes in Southern states, it is possible to call attention to a case in Virginia in which color was no bar to justice.

In Norfolk a woman had accused a Negro of attacking her and, on her testimony, the Negro had been convicted. It was established later that the woman was near Elizabeth, N. C., some 40 miles away, at the time of the alleged attack. She was sentenced to five years in prison.

This is an important episode. It is difficult to estimate how many innocent Negroes have been sent prematurely to death on the basis of the false testimony of imaginative, hysterical or willfully dishonest women. Such cases as this in Norfolk may do much to discourage such imagination and perjury in the future, without in any way curbing the effective prosecution of guilty men.

Another Dot Skaggs Case

Dorothy Skaggs, white and married, who went out for a night's fun with a boy friend and then spread the alarm that she had been assaulted by a colored man, provided Norfolk, Virginia, with a six months sensation. 9-19-31

The man she identified as the rapist was sentenced to death. Then the conscience of the "boy friend" who was also married, got the better of him. He could not see a fellow human executed for his night's fun. He confessed, and Dot was convicted of perjury.

The sequel to that case comes from Alabama, where Andrew Sanders, 26, alleged rapist of a 11-year-old white girl was saved from execution by the Alabama state board of pardons.

Even the State Supreme Court had confirmed the conviction and when the date of execution was near, the board of pardons was astonished to find upon its desk a recommendation of clemency signed by the trial judge, the prosecuting attorney, each of the twelve jurors, who had voted for the death sentence, and 200 white citizens. Baltimore, Md.

What caused this reversal of opinion? No one will say definitely except that Sanders is not the man, and that he is the victim of a conspiracy.

Need more be said, except that here was another "night's fun," of white folk which nearly cost a colored person his life, and has already cost him hours of anxiety and misery.

His sentence was commuted to life imprisonment, but the facts indicate that he ought never to have been arrested at all.

NO CRIME TO TELL 'LIE' ON NEGRO

Norfolk Woman, Whose Testimony Almost Sent Innocent Man to Death, Freed, After Being Found Guilty In First Trial. 9-26-31

NORFOLK, Va., Sept. 24—

A white woman's little "white lie," which almost sent an innocent Negro to his death, is no crime, in the eyes of a Virginia jury, which Saturday afternoon, acquitted Mrs. Dorothy Skaggs, white, of a charge of perjury in connection with testimony she gave against William Harper in his two trials on charges of attack brought by her.

From the result of the case, it appeared that the jury felt that inasmuch as Harper had won his freedom, it would be unfair to punish Mrs. Skaggs, a white woman, for telling a lie on a Negro. This is just another example of "southern justice." 9-26-31

Other Case Thrown Out

The perjury charge against Mrs. Katherine Ketchum, friend of Mrs. Skaggs, whose first trial resulted in a hung jury, was nolle prossed Monday on motion of special prosecutor Martin. This action leaves the legal but illogical status of "nobody guilty" in a case which has been aired all over the country.

Case Sensational

The case was one of the most sensational in the history of Virginia. Harper was convicted on the testimony of Mrs. Skaggs, who alleged that he had attacked her on January 6. Harper was speedily found guilty and sentenced to die. New evidence resulted in the re-opening of the case and the resultant testimony, given by W. B. Kidd, a white man of Portsmouth, Va., proved conclusively that Mrs. Skaggs had perjured herself. It was proven that Mrs. Skaggs, on the night of the alleged attack, was attending a dance in a hall near Elizabeth City, N. C., with a man not her husband.

Tried and Convicted

After Harper was freed, Mrs. Skaggs was tried and convicted on

the same perjury charge in June by a jury from Newport News, Va. She was granted another trial on new evidence. This was the fifth trial in a nine months series.

The verdict of the jury wrote finis to the Harper-Skaggs-Ketchum cases.

NOT GUILTY" TO BE PLEA OF MAN HELD FOR RAPE

Charge Of Assault On
3-Year-Old Called
Conspiracy
Norfolk, Va.

"Not guilty," is expected to be the plea of Leroy Edwards, of Walker Ave., Berkley, when he is brought to trial in Corporation Court No. 1 before Judge William H. Sargeant, Thursday, Oct. 22, in connection with an alleged rape on a three-year-old girl.

Edwards was arrested on September 23 by officers from the Berkley precinct station on a warrant obtained by Mrs. Viola Steward, 1015 Middlesex St., Berkley. The warrant states that the alleged offense was committed "on or about the first day of Sept. 1931," and further affirms "that Leroy Edwards, hereinafter accused, did unlawfully and feloniously criminally assault a girl three years and seven months of age against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia."

At the meeting of the October term of the Corporation Court Grand Jury, several witnesses gave testimony of such a nature that true bill containing two counts was returned against Edwards. The indictment which is signed by Harry McCoy, Commonwealth's Attorney, is to the following effect:

That Leroy Edwards on the first day of September in the year 1931, "with force and arms," did violently and feloniously make an assault on Astoria Steward, in the city of Norfolk, against her will and by force, against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The warrant against Edwards originally specified that the alleged offense was committed on Sept. 7, but was later amended to read "on or about Sept. 1." Charges and counter charges of a carefully planned conspiracy are expected to be made when the case is brought to trial. Edwards is being represented by W. H. Venable, white, appointed by the court.

Lynchings-1931

Rape by Whites.

Negro Jailed In Attack

On Birmingham Girl

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., April 28. (AP)—A negro who gave his name as Jesse Jordan, 30, was placed in the Jefferson County Jail today for questioning in connection with the death of Mrs. A. Allen, and an attack on one of her daughters.

The negro was arrested at the city slag pile where he was serving a sentence for violating the prohibition law. He was taken into custody on the latter charge two hours after Mrs. Allen was beaten into insensibility, a six-year-old daughter set upon with rocks and another daughter, Lena Mae, 17, attacked.

Officers arresting the negro said he had been identified from photographs by the elder daughter. Rewards totaling \$1,000 have been offered for the arrest and conviction of the negro guilty of the attack.

Mobile Girl Assaulted

By Two White Men

MOBILE, ALA., June 10. (AP)—Mobile police have disclosed that a 13-year-old daughter of a widow was kidnapped here today by two white men and taken to a secluded place and assaulted.

A motorist found the child soon afterwards and took her to a hospital. The police said they have only meager descriptions of the men.

They disclosed the child's mother has accused a man rooming in her home with threatening to "get even" with her for having him arrested last Sunday for drunkenness.

A search for him is under way.

He Wasn't Lynched For Rape - He Was A White Man

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—An Alabama white man, Robert Hodges, has received a 25-year sentence in Montgomery Circuit Court for assault upon a colored woman.

The report states that the white man and a Negro held up and robbed a colored woman and her husband who were in an automobile and after the robbery carried off the colored woman, whom the white man then attacked.

The Negro who is alleged to have accompanied the white man, was shot and killed by police officers who said they found the white man, Hodges, in an automobile with the colored woman.

The verdict in the case was returned after 35 minutes deliberation by the jury. A robbery charge against Hodges is still pending.

CONVICT WHITE MAN FOR RAPE OF COLORED WOMAN

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 2. — ANP—Robert Hodges, white, was found guilty here Tuesday of a criminal attack upon a colored woman, Mrs. Sally Brown, and faces a 25-year penitentiary sentence for the crime.

A jury returned the verdict after deliberating for thirty minutes. This was the second trial for Hodges, the first one having resulted in a mistrial.

According to the evidence presented, Hodges and a colored man working with him held up Mrs. Brown and her husband at pistol point and robbed them. After the robbery, they seized Mrs. Brown and drove her away in an automobile. Hodges attacked her lady, Mrs. Brown testified in court.

Alabama

3481

Lynchings-1931

Rape by Whites.

KIDNAPED CHILD NEAR DEATH AFTER ATTACK

Commercial Appeal
Jonesboro Girl, Aged Three,
Victim of Fiend.

4-20-31

PRISONER FOR 8 HOURS

Memphis
Tall, Gray-Haired Stranger En-
tices Tot Into Car and Then
Leaves Her on Another Porch.
Cries Lead to Discovery.

Special to The Commercial Appeal.

JONESBORO, Ark., April 19.—

Kidnaped while playing on the sidewalk in front of her home at dusk last night and held captive for eight hours, three-year-old Irene Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Williams, 517 North Main Street, in the New Halton addition, is in a critical condition at a local hospital today.

The assailant was a stranger to the child and is described as a man of advanced age.

Two suspects were taken by police today but no definite evidence to connect either with the crime has been unearthed. City and county officers are energetically working on clues in an effort to apprehend the fiend.

Neighbors See Car.

The tot was playing alone in front of the home. The abductor is believed to have parked a sedan and induced the child to enter the car. Neighbors report seeing a brown sedan of old model, parked about the time of the kidnaping. They took no particular notice of it and did not see the little girl enter the machine.

Shortly after midnight today, Attorney and Mrs. George Greenhaw, residents of South Madison Street, in another part of the city, were awakened by a child's cries and found the little girl on their front porch.

They notified police who had been searching for hours for the child, having been notified by the anxious parents as soon as the disappearance was discovered. Officers rushed to the Greenhaw home and took the child back home.

A physician ordered the child taken to the hospital. Examination revealed that the little girl had been severely injured.

Accosted Other Women.

Residents of the neighborhood report the presence on several occasions of a strange man in the old model sedan, who attempted to pick up children and young women.

Only a half hour before the kidnaping he tried to induce three small children to climb into his machine and accosted a young married woman at a street intersection, according to the statements given the police. He is described as a tall man, gray-haired wearing a black suit and a cap.

A farmer, who resides four miles north of the city, made a call at the Williams home during Saturday afternoon and conversed with Mr. Williams for a time. Police arrested him for investigation this morning. It is believed that he will establish an alibi but he was spirited away from the city to another Northeast Arkansas jail as a safety measure. Feeling is running high.

TAXI DRIVER IS HELD FOR ATTACK ON CHILD

Commercial Appeal
Jonesboro *Appeal* Denies
Fiendish Crime April 18.

Memphis, Tenn
JONESBORO, Ark., July 9.

Charged with a fiendish assault on three-year-old Irene Williams on the night of April 18, Joe Tudor, 40, local taxicab driver, is held in the Craighead County jail following his arrest this morning by Sheriff W. Y. Nash on a warrant.

The arrest followed weeks of investigation by Sheriff Nash, Chief of Police W. C. Craig and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Claude Brinton. Tudor in an interview denied the charge, claiming that he was at his home, 219 East Street, asleep during the hours the child was missing.

Irene was kidnaped from in front of the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Williams, on North Main Street, at dusk on Saturday evening, April 18. It was thought that she was taken into a car that had prowled the neighborhood.

When missed by the parents a search was started by officers. At 11:30 o'clock Saturday night the tot wandered onto the porch of the home of Attorney George Greenhaw on Union Street. Greenhaw notified the police who returned the little girl to her parents.

Child Badly Injured.

Discovery was made after the child's return home that she had been feloniously assaulted and badly injured. She was removed to St. Bernard's Hospital and was in a critical condition for several days, but finally recovered.

Officers claim they can trace the car driven by Tudor to its stop where the Williams child was play- ing and that further movements of the car with its two passengers can be traced.

In the days following the attack a reward of more than \$500 for the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties was offered by the city, county and private individuals. Tudor has resided in Jonesboro 22 years. He has a wife and two sons. For a number of years he drove a bus between Jonesboro and Flint, Michigan. Several years ago he was charged with an attack at Duquoin, Ill., the alleged victim being five years old. He stated that he was never jailed on the charge, and that it was dismissed, and that the charge was brought in an effort to start a \$7,500 suit.

Arkansas.

3482

Lynchings-1931
Rape by Whites

California

3483

Course 6-10-31
**KILL WHITE
RAPISTS", POLICE ORDER**
Course

Citizens of Los Angeles In-
censed Over Series Of As-
saults On White Girls

1-10-31

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 8
—(ANP)—Local law enforce-
ment bodies and psycho-ana-
lysts are at a loss to account
or the present orgy of rape
and incest by white men
against white girl victims. With
enough cases to indicate an organ-
ized movement, parents of young
girls, especially those of the wealthy
class, are in a state of tense alarm.
Even their own homes are not safe
from invasions, as recent dastardly
crimes have proven.

Contrary to the racial propaganda
of southern whites, none of the re-
cent assaults or attempts have been
perpetrated by Negro criminals, even
against females of their own race,
and it is hoped by local colored citi-
zens that there will be none. "Get
the criminals dead or alive!" is the
drastic order issued last week by the
police commission, after a special
session.

"Bring in the criminals; the com-
missioners are not telling you how
but bring them in! Instruct all of-
ficers working under your direction
to bring in these thugs, bandits and
rapists, alive if possible, but dead if
necessary."

Lynchings-1931

Colorado

3484

Rape by Whites.

**COLORADAN MURDERED,
COMPANION ATTACKED**

COLORADO SPRINGS, Col., July 21.—(AP)—A young man who shot and killed Louis J. Palmer, 19, and then assaulted Palmer's companion, Miss Glenda King, 18, was being sought by officers in Colorado Springs and the surrounding vacation country today.

The slayer was described by Miss King as being about 23 years old. He wore overalls and a leather jacket.

The couple was seated in a parked truck on the edge of Prospect lake in the east end of the city last night when the assailant stepped from behind a tree and shot Palmer.

Lynchings-1931

Rape by Whites.

Georgia

3485

ATTEMPTED ASSAULT CHARGED TO GEORGIAN

4-12-31
MACON, Ga., April 11. (P)—

Charged with attempted criminal assault on a young married woman over her husband's assault was Gilbert Peacock, of Houston county, on Saturday night obtained his liberty from the Bibb county jail on bond of \$7,500 and returned to his home in Dodge county.

Peacock had been brought to the Bibb jail earlier in the afternoon. The alleged attempted assault is said to have been made about 10 o'clock Saturday morning at a filling station operated by the young woman and her husband about four miles north of Perry.

The woman's husband is said to have been away from the station at the time.

Young Peacock was arrested at noon in Byron on a message from Sheriff C. C. Pierce, of Houston county. Sheriff Pierce and his deputies already had begun a chase, but Peacock had been arrested when they arrived in Byron, it was said. He was brought to the Bibb county jail immediately.

Officers from the state farm arrived with a group of track dogs within a few minutes after the arrest.

A warrant for Peacock had not been obtained late Saturday, but Solicitor Charles H. Garrett said he would be charged with attempted criminal assault. The victim is the daughter of a Kathleen (Ga.) physician, it was reported.

The young husband came to Macon Saturday afternoon and told the story of the alleged attack to Solicitor Garrett. He said he arrived home Saturday morning to find his wife's clothing badly torn and to learn from her and a negro woman that Peacock had been chased away by the family dog.

When the dog gave chase Peacock is alleged to have been making an effort to assault the young woman. The dog is said to have torn away part of the young man's clothing.

The husband said that Peacock, driver of a transfer truck out of Macon to south Georgia, had stopped at the filling station often. He said Peacock knew that he (the husband) was not at home Saturday.

The young man's clothing was examined in the office of Sheriff James R. Hicks, Jr., Saturday night just after he had furnished bond, and deputies reported that there were no torn places. Relatives of Peacock said the dog did not touch him.

ATLANTA MAN IS JAILED ON CHARGE OF ASSAULT

Following an alleged assault on a 16-year-old Atlanta girl Friday night near Clarkston, Leon Berry, 34, of 522 Ponce de Leon avenue, Saturday was held in the DeKalb county jail without bond.

The victim of the attack told the arresting officer, Patrolman J. D. Stribling, that Berry had promised to take her to a theater but, instead, drove her to a place near Clarkston, where the assault was committed.

MISDEMEANOR VERDICT FOR ALLEGED ASSAULT

MACON, Ga., May 26. (P)—Ellis Bloy, young Dannerberry avenue resident, charged with attempted criminal assault on a 17-year-old Jones county girl, this afternoon was convicted in Bibb superior court of assault and battery. Judge H. A. Mathews sentenced him to serve a term of 12 months or pay a fine of \$120.

Attempted criminal assault is a felony. The verdict of the jury returned after five hours of deliberation, reduced the offense to a misdemeanor.

ATTEMPTED ASSAULT CHARGED TO OFFICERS

FAYETTEVILLE, Ga., July 21.—Ward McCullough and Alfred Nelms, Fayette county policemen, were arrested here today on charge of attempting to assault the wife of a prominent Brooks Station farmer near here. McCullough and Nelms each furnished bond of \$2,500.

The warrant against the two officers alleges that they accosted the woman in a swamp near her home. McCullough and Nelms have declined to discuss the case.

Authorities said that McCullough and Nelms have been in the employ of the county only a short time.

Lynchings-1931

Rape by Whites.

Illinois

3486

\$200 FINE FOR WHITE "MASHER"

Heavy Penalty Given Man who Annoyed Woman and Drew Gun On Husband

Although he had drawn a revolver on a husband who came to his wife's rescue to protect her from the insults of a white truck driver, the white man was fined \$200 on a disorderly conduct charge by Judge John Haas in the Wabash avenue court Friday. The white man, Arthur Gibbs, had followed Mrs. Vivian Pitts, of 5919 Calumet from the "L" station at 38th street up to her door, and was on the steps of her home when she called for aid to her husband, Capt. Anderson F. Pitts.

When Pitts warned the masher to go away the man drew a revolver and threatened him, Pitts said. Pitts, a captain in the 8th Regiment, wrested the weapon from his opponent, and after giving him a sound beating, turned him over to the police.

The incident occurred on Tuesday and the case was called in court the next morning. For some reason after hearing the evidence, all of which Gibbs is said to have admitted, the case was continued until Friday.

"Need Not Appear"

Pitts, although told by the court that he "need not appear" was on hand to see that Gibbs was punished, and when asked by Judge Haas if he would be content with a light fine for Gibbs replied that he would not. The \$200 fine followed.

Despite the fact that Gibbs drew a deadly weapon on him the charge of carrying concealed weapons was not made, Pitts said. "It seems a

shame to me," Pitts said to a WHIP reporter, "that white men can come into our districts, molest our women, and then draw guns on their husbands and escape in court on a disorderly conduct charge. I also wondered why the city prosecutor, Eugene Marshall, failed to say a word when he is supposed to prosecute such cases as come under the jurisdiction of the city."

Lynchings - 1931

Rape by Whites.

**Threatens to Kill Her
Should She Scream**

for Assistance

~~San American~~
Goes to House to**Purchase Whiskey**~~San American~~
"Companionate Hubby"**Shoots at Attacker****In Bedroom**

George Berkheimer, white, merchant at 1240 Washington, is being held by the police for attacking and attempting to rape Miss Marie Thomas, 2409 Lincoln, expectant mother in her home last Saturday night. Berkheimer, who was thwarted in his attack by Fred Smith, common law husband of Miss Thomas, admitted being in the room with the woman, but denied attempting to attack her.

Went to Buy Whiskey

According to Berkheimer's testimony, he went to the Lincoln street address to purchase whiskey from Mrs. Jessie Carter, mother of Fred Smith, and in whose home the attempted attack occurred. Berkheimer was seated at a table drinking the whiskey purchased from Mrs. Carter. Miss Thomas, who was also in the room, went to another part of the house, and Berkheimer is alleged to have followed her. She went into her bedroom and Berkheimer went into the room behind her and locked the door. He is alleged to have assaulted her, and threatened to kill her if she screamed.

Smith, who was in another room, heard the outcry, and rushed to her assistance. He was forced to smash the door to gain entrance into the room. Smith claims that when he entered the room Berkheimer had a knife in his hand and was holding the Thomas girl across the bed. Smith fired a shot into the air to frighten the drunken white man, and at the same time forced him out of the room. Police were then notified and Berkheimer and the others in the house were arrested.

Berkheimer claims that he was taken to the house by two young Negroes, yet unidentified. His purpose was to purchase liquor and "have a good time." He said he was asked to go into the room with the woman. He claims that he did not know the people.

James Nelson, roomer at the same address, was also taken to police headquarters along with Berkheim-

er, Smith, Mrs. Carter and Miss Thomas. All of them substantiated the Thomas girl's story concerning the alleged attempted assault. With the exception of Berkheimer and Mrs. Carter, all of them were released after questioning by police. Mrs. Carter is being held for violation of the state liquor law.

Physicians Believe Girl

To further prove her contention that she was not guilty of inviting Berkheimer into her room for immoral purposes, Miss Thomas, who is only 21 years of age, submitted to an examination by physicians at police headquarters. They declare that the young woman will soon become a mother and that her stage of expectancy is so far advanced that they disbelieve Berkheimer's statement.

Lynchings-1931

Rape by Whites.

ATTACKS COLORED GIRL

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 28.—There was great excitement here last week when the news was flashed that a white man had attempted to rape a 10-year-old school girl. The mother immediately made an attempt to secure a warrant. The N. A. A. C. employed C. E. Tucker to prosecute the case. Through his efforts the white man was indicted before the Grand Jury and has been held under \$5,000 bond. He asked the court to appoint a lawyer for his defense. The white man conducts a second-hand store in a thickly populated colored neighborhood.

**WHITE MAN IS
UNDER \$5,000 BOND
FOR ATTEMPTED RAPE**

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 29—(ANP)—There was great excitement here last week when the news was flashed that a white man had attempted to rape a 10-year-old school girl. The mother immediately made an attempt to secure a warrant. The N. A. A. C. employed C. E. Tucker to prosecute the case. Through his efforts the white man was indicted before the Grand Jury and has been held under \$5,000 bond. He asked the court to appoint a lawyer for his defense. The white man conducts a second hand store in a thickly populated colored neighborhood.

**Held for Attempt
to Rape Race Girl**

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 30.—Leon Lewis, white, who attempted to rape a 12-year-old girl on 12th and Chestnut streets, was indicted by the grand jury and held under \$5,000 bond. Attorney C. E. Tucker of the N. A. A. C. P. is prosecuting the case. Lewis, who runs a second-hand store in a thickly populated Race neighborhood, asked the court to appoint a lawyer for his defense.

Lynchings, 1931

Louisiana

3489

Rape by Whites.

JAIL AGED WHITE MAN, ATTACKED ORPHAN

Courier

5-16-31
AMITE, La., May 14 (ANP)—El-
ridge Bankston, prominent white 60-
year-old farmer and dairyman of this
section, was brought to the Tangi-
pahoa parish jail here and charged
with assaulting a 10-year-old orphan
girl who had been placed in his care.
Feeling over the incident is intense
and precautions have been taken to
see that Bankston is not removed
from the jail.

Pittsburgh
The child is one of the daughters
of a Natalbany man named Chat-
nam, who was murdered in his sleep
by his wife some four months ago.
The mother was sent to the state in-
ane asylum and the children to an
orphanage at Jennings. Subsequent-
ly, an aunt, not wishing the children
to remain in the asylum, put them
in the care of various families of
this neighborhood. The 10-year-old
daughter was placed with Bankston,
a grandfather, with a wife and a
large family.

A few days ago, it was learned re-
cently, the child told her sister, who
was living with another family near-
by, that she had been attacked by
Bankston. The elder girl sought
help from Amite authorities, who
sent for the younger girl and had
her examined by Dr. Glenn J. Smith
and Dr. Jesse McClendon. Their
findings and an investigation that
has been going on quietly for sev-
eral days, led Deputy Sheriffs Hal-
stead and Bennet to arrest Banks-
ton at his home on the assault
charge.

Lynchings - 1931

Rape by Whites.

WHITE MAN ASSAULTS 7- YEAR-OLD GIRL

committed. Officers Brown and Ball of the Flora avenue station arrested McMurry.

McMurry is married and has two little tots of his own, a boy and a girl, both younger than the little colored girl he is accused of attacking.

COAXED CHILD INTO BASEMENT

OF SCHOOL BUILDING IN
KANSAS CITY.

Kansas City, June 27—

Jimmie McMurry, 24, white, 2433 McCoy street, was arrested Tuesday afternoon on complaint of the mother of a seven-year-old colored girl, who charged McMurry with criminally attacking her child in a basement room of Lincoln high school on Monday afternoon.

McMurry is a bricklayer and is working on some repair work at Lincoln high. The little girl lives near the school and her mother charges that the laborer enticed the child into a basement room and attacked her. McMurry weighs 152 pounds and is five feet six inches tall.

Wednesday morning McMurry was arraigned on the charge before Judge J. J. Dougherty in the courtroom at Twelfth street and Brooklyn avenue and the date of his preliminary hearing was set for Wednesday, July 8 at 10 A. M., in the same courtroom.

The mother stated that her child was out playing most of the afternoon and it was not until bedtime that she noticed there was something wrong with her. She carried her to the hospital and physicians there said she had been "shamefully mistreated." The little girl told them one of the workmen around Lincoln high school had attacked her.

On Tuesday the mother called police officers and they, accompanied by the child, went to the school where the little girl readily pointed out McMurry and then led officers to the room where the deed was

Missouri

3490

Lynchings-1931
Rape by Whites.

New Jersey

3491

FOR RAPING 9 YR. OLD

WHITE PIANO TUNER IN NEW
JERSEY HELD FOR ABUSING
COLORED CHILD

Trenton, N. J., December 30, 1930—

Joseph Garigle, white piano tuner charged with criminally assaulting a nine-year-old girl here last week, has been committed to Mercer County jail without bond by Justice of the Peace Clarence C. McRae. -3-31

Garigle was arrested through a trap set by Constable M. Southard, white, after he and Justice McRae had failed to find him at his place of business. Constable Southard phoned the place and stated that he needed a piano tuner and when Garigle responded, he was arrested.

NEWARK JANITORS ACCUSED OF ASSAULT PLEAD NOT GUILTY

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 22—Two white janitors of the Belmont Avenue school, who are being prosecuted on charges of assaulting two little colored girls, have been indicted and are held in \$100 bail each. They pleaded not guilty. 1-24-31 Pittsburgh, Pa

The case is being closely followed by the Newark branch of the N. A. A. C. P., in co-operation with the interdenominational group of clergymen of the city, Councilor George A. Douglas having been retained in the case.

Lynchings - 1931

New York

3492

Rape by Whites.

FIGHT GROWS ON JANITORS WHO ASSAULTS LITTLE GIRLS

New York, Jan. 10.—With the churches of Newark, N. J., contributing funds toward the fight to oust and punish the school janitors who assaulted two eight year old colored girls, a united front is being presented by the colored citizens under the leadership of the Interdenominational Ministers and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

A letter to the N. A. A. C. reports that the assault took place on Nov. 8, 1930, and that examination by a doctor revealed assault had been committed on the children. Though the case was reported to the school principal, and at City Hall, no action was taken by city authorities.

The case was then brought before the Essex County Civic Club, which appointed a committee to investigate. One of the children, brought to court identified the man who had attacked her and the man who had assaulted her friend. The letter to the N. A. A. C. P. from Miss Mildred M. Free continues:

"The judge was not inclined to believe the story of the child and had both men paroled in custody of Mr. Sheridan to the Board of Education. At this point the committee appealed to the Baptist Ministers Conference where they accidentally met Dean William Pickens, who decided that it was a case for the Newark branch of the N. A. A. C. P.

"Dean Pickens so inspired the ministers of all denominations in Newark and vicinity that many have joined the Branch, and all have pledged to help fight the atrocious case.

"The Interdenominational group of ministers held a meeting at New Hope Baptist Church and appointed Rev. T. T. Tucker, Attorney J. M. Burrell and Arthur Hardy to draw up a set of resolutions and send copies to the Board of Education, and the principal of the Belmont Avenue School.

"Councilor George A. Douglas has been retained for the case. Members of the Branch have been addressing different churches each Sunday. Mr. Pickens has spurred every one to help in this action. Mr. Pickens has spoken at two mass meetings and several other meetings in the past two weeks and thru his untiring efforts he has aroused the whole community to demand justice for these little race girls."

HARLEM GANG RAPES WOMAN COP SLAYS LEADER IN DUEL

NEW YORK CITY, Dec. 23.—One of the leaders of the notorious Harlem "Lefty gang" was slain, and four others were captured and arrested last week following a series of predatory crimes throughout the poorer tenement section of Harlem. For more than a month reports have been made to the police by householders, lunch counter operators and other small business men of robbery, terrorism and vandalism by a group of half-grown ruffians known as the "Lefty Gang" after the name of their leader "Lefty" Williams. Efforts of the police to corner the gang had proved unsuccessful as usually the reports came too late after the crimes, or else that the gang scattered at the approach of the police.

On Thursday night, under the guidance of their leader, the gang undertook one of the most dastardly crimes of their career. They forced their way into the apartment of Nettie Gulon on West 149th st. finding the woman's lover John Robinson there, upon whom they beat him unmercifully, and chased him out of the house.

Attack Woman

The six gangsters held the woman prisoner while they ransacked the apartment. Finding nothing of value, they dragged the woman to the bed room, tore off her clothes, and while one held a knife to her throat, threatening to kill her if she cried out, each of the men in turn criminally assaulted her.

Robinson rushed through the streets until he found Patrolman Anthony E. Buckner, whom he told of the affair, and brought back to the apartment with him. The gang had gone, but Robinson and Buckner trailed them for several blocks until they came upon them in front of a drug store. Williams, the leader was standing against an automobile and when he saw Robinson and the policeman, he dodged behind the car, and thrust his hand into his back pocket. Firing through the windows of the car, Buckner shot Williams through the forehead, killing him instantly. The five other members of the gang who started

to run when Robinson approached, ran into the arms of a white police man, who captured them and placed them under arrest.

Lynchings-1931

Ohio

3493

Rape by Whites.

Girl Seeking a Job

Outraged by Cleveland Ofay

GIRL TRIES SUICIDE AFTER ATTACK BY 'RICH WHITE BUSINESS MAN'

CLEVELAND, Ohio. (ANP)—In her search for a job, Miss Hazel Ford, 27, 2316 E. 88th Street, lost her virtue and almost lost her life, according to a report given out by her involving a rape attack by a white man.

Miss Ford's story is to the effect that the rape occurred when she went to obtain a job which she had advertised for through the newspapers.

A man called her, giving the name of Striver, and informed her that he needed a girl to nurse his wife for two days a week. He offered to pay her \$5 for the two day's work, and instructed her to meet him at the end of a car line. A white man met her and stated that he was the one who called her. He showed her her name in a notebook which he carried. He then said that he would drive her to his home.

Instead, he drove her a long way into the woods. She became frightened and questioned him as to where he was going. He replied by telling her that he was going to have some fun with her.

A little further on he stopped, told her to get out of the car, led her into the woods off the road, forced her to take her clothes off, then attacked her.

After the attack, he left her naked in the woods.

It was nearly an hour before she found her way to a house.

After the attack, Miss Ford returned to her home in such a feeling of shame that she attempted to commit suicide. Her sister entered her room just in time to snatch a bottle of iodine from her hand.

She was able to obtain the license number of the car of her assailant, but a search of the records revealed that the license plate had been stolen from another man.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Oct. 28.—Her nerves shattered, and her mind distressed by the hideous experience of a criminal attack in the woods by a white man whom she thought was taking her to his home to employ her as a maid, Miss Hazel Ford, pretty 28 year old Cleveland girl was narrowly saved from suicide by her sister, who knocked a bottle of poison from her hand.

Miss Ford, who had been unemployed for several weeks, advertised for a job as maid in the daily newspapers. Her ad was answered last week by a white man who described himself as a 'rich white business man,' who offered the girl a job at his country home as maid. He told Miss Ford to call for him in the lobby of the building where he had his office at the end of the business day, and he would take her to his home. Miss Ford met him in the lobby on Friday afternoon, and got in the car to go to his home. According to her story, as they were driving through the outskirts of the city, the man, who gave his name as Striver, began to make improper advances to her, and she repelled him. Striver drove the car into the woods, parked it, and began to struggle with the girl. He smothered her cries with his hand, and brutally tore her clothing from her body, and attacked her.

Left Naked In Woods

Striver then pushed the girl out of the car and started away, leaving her stark naked in the woods. In answer to the girl's pleas that he give her her torn clothing which remained in the car, Striver threw her some of it, and then sped off. The girl covered herself as best she could with the mutilated clothing, and walked three miles through the woods to a farm house, where she told a white farmer of her

plight. He took her home in his car, and reported the case to the police. Miss Ford gave the police an accurate description of her assailant, and three suspects have been called in for questioning.

Miss Ford was in a highly nervous state following her fearful experience, and her sister, who suspected that she might try self-destruction, kept a watchful eye on her. The girl secured a bottle of carbolic acid from the bath room and took it to her bedroom. She was about to drink the acid when her sister saw her and knocked the bottle from her hands.

Lynchings-1931
Rape by Whites

MOTION IS OFFERED BY COURT

Well-Known Hill Man Makes
Alibi to Charges Made by
White Girl.

Pittsburgh, Pa

Judge Elder W. Marshall, on his own motion, granted Percy Cousins a new trial in Criminal Court Tuesday, after the jury brought in a verdict of guilty of attempted rape, when the charges were sodomy and rape. The Court said the evidence and verdict warranted a new trial for Cousins.

Cousins was accused of the serious charges by Stella Novak, white. According to the girl, Cousins flirted with her in the Lando theater. He followed her when she left the movie and asked her if he might accompany her to her home. She said that she assented. They passed a hotel, she says, and Cousins told her to wait until he got his overcoat. After a moment he reappeared, the girl says, and asked her to come up to his room and wait. She says he looked the door and proceeded to assault her.

Cousins declared that at the time the girl says he was in her company he was packing baskets for the poor in the Third Ward Voters Club in Fullerton street. Clarence C. Webster, president of the club, verified his statement. Other persons in court to testify as to Cousins being in the club at the time were Mrs. Ina Wayne and Mrs. Alice Johnson.

Attorney T. B. Hamilton represented Cousins.

Lynchings-1931

Rape by Whites.

GIRL 10 IS ATTACKED.**Tiptonville Suspect Rushed Away****When Crowd Gathers**

Juanita Liggins, 10-year-old Tiptonville, Tenn., child, is at Methodist Hospital under care of physicians as a result of attack at noon Monday. Dave Smith, 22, Tiptonville farmer, is in jail at some West Tennessee point that Lake County officials refuse to divulge, charged with the assault upon the child.

The child was playing in the yard at her home near the Mississippi River about noon Monday when she was seized and taken into the woods nearby. She was held captive for six hours. The child's mother heard her scream as she was dragged away but was unable to locate her. Officers were notified and it was while a posse of officers searched for the missing child that she was returned to her home about dark.

Smith grabbed a shotgun and again went into the woods where he had kept the child half a day. Smith was finally captured and taken to Tiptonville, it is said by Tiptonville officers. Due to high feeling when the details became known he was spirited out of the county to a place of safekeeping in another county.

The little girl's condition was reported as good last night but she will be required to remain at the hospital for several days. She has not yet been able to tell a coherent story other than that she was beaten about the head and body before being attacked.

Judge Robert Elkins has called a special term of Lake County circuit court for June 1, at which time an indictment will be sought. This move was made by court officials in an effort to quiet public feeling.

Threats of violence were heard on all sides at Tiptonville Monday after Smith was arrested and crowds gathered about the county jail. It was then that Sheriff Headdon slipped his prisoner out of the jail and into another county.

WHITE MEN CONVICTED**IN ATTACK ON NEGROES***Continued*
10-24-31

SPRINGFIELD, Tenn., Oct. 23.—

(AP)—Two white men convicted of attacking two negro women today faced penitentiary life for the balance of their active ~~terms~~ *terms*.

Upon the younger, Frank Wilson, 23, the jury yesterday placed a 50-year sentence, and upon his uncle, Charles Wilson, 49, a 40-year term. Both lived in San Antonio, Texas.

Attorney General W. C. Howell said charges of robbing the women's companion, stealing the latter's automobile and going armed, would not be prosecuted.

Lynchings- 1931

Texas.

3496

Rape by Whites.

GIRL IDENTIFIES WHITE ATTACKER

Alvin, Tex.

Alvin, Tex., Nov. 25 (By A. N. P.)—
Elmer Sneed, 29-year-old Alvin white
man, charged with criminally assault
ing a 10-year-old girl here Monday
was bound over to the grand jury
without bond at a preliminary hear
ing in Justice of the Peace G. W. Shef
field's court. He is being confined in
the county jail at Angleton. He was
arrested on a complaint filed by the
girl's parents. The attack is alleged
to have taken place in an empty
theatre building to which the little
girl went with her younger brother
to look for a cap which he left there
on Saturday. Upon returning home
she told her mother of having been at
tacked by a man, who offered to help
her look for her brother's cap. A phy
sician who was called testified that in
his opinion an attack had taken place.
—Sneed was arrested upon the girl's
identification. Considerable excite
ment prevailed following the arrest
but there was no attempt at violence.

Lynchings-1931

Rape by Whites.

Texas.

3497

Girl Identifies *Courier 11-28-31* White Attacker

ALVIN, Tex., Nov. 26—(By ANP)—Elmer Sneed, 29-year-old Alvin married white man, charged with criminally assaulting a 10-year-old girl here Monday, was bound over to the grand jury without bond at a preliminary hearing in Justice of the Peace W. Sheffield's court. He is being confined in the county jail at Angleton. He was arrested on a complaint filed by the girl's parents. The attack is alleged to have taken place in an empty theater building to which the little girl went with her younger brother to look for a cap which he left there on Saturday. Upon returning home she told her mother of having been attacked by a man, who offered to help her look for her brother's cap. A physician who was called stated that in his opinion an attack had taken place.

Sneed was arrested upon the girl's identification. Considerable excitement prevailed following the arrest, but there was no attempt at violence.

Lynchings - 1931
Race by Whites

Virginia

3498

WHITE MORON OFFERS PAY TO 'SQUARE' RAPE OF 6-YEAR OLD CHILD

10-3-31

PETERSBURG, Va., Sept. 30.

An organize effort to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law a white and rich moron who criminal-ly assaulted a 6-year-old colored girl is being made by colored cit-izens and organizations throughout this city. The man guilty of this perverse and heinous crime is Mer-ritt Bragg, 17 year old college stu-udent, and son of a wealthy mer-chant, who after his arrest and failure to deny the charge, was ad-mitted to bail on \$2,500 bond by a judge in the court of domestic re-lations. His seriously injured vic-tim is a little six year old colored girl, whose name is being withheld by the authorities.

The attack occurred in the Bragg boy's father's store where the lit-tle girl was sent by her mother for some soap. The youth was alone in the store, and dragged the child into the back of the store, where he brutally assaulted her, and then pushed her out of the back door into an alley. The horribly lacerat-ed and injured child was found by her mother two hours later, lying in the alley in an unconscious condi-tion. She was rushed to the hospital where when she was revived, she told the story of her attack. Police officers went to arrest the youth, who never denied the little girl's story. Newspaper reporters got hold of the story, and printed it in an un-conspicuous place in all of the daily papers.

Money Offer Spurned

C. E. Bragg, father of the youth, came to the home of the mother of the child, where he abused her for causing his son's arrest and the story to get into the papers, claim-ing she should have come to him first. Bragg offered to "square" the matter by paying the child's hospi-tal bill, and giving the mother a

hundred dollars not to prosecute his son. The N. A. A. C. P. and other organizations have retained counsel to aid in the prosecution of the case.

HOLD WHITE IN ATTACK AT GARY

10-3-31

GARY, Ind., Sept. 30—Two white hoodlums are being held by police and a third is being sought on char-ges of criminally attacking Miss Anna Coleman in a woods on the outskirts of the city.

The young woman was on her way home from the home of a friend Tuesday night, when three white men in a car drove up be-side her, and dragged her into the car, and sped off. They took her to a woods near Polk street and the Calumet river, where two of the men attacked her, beating her and choking her to smother her cries. The woman's smothered cries at-tracted Atty. Chester McGuire and J. L. Baker who were in the vicinity of the spot. At their approach the white men fled, but were seen and recognized by the woman's rescuers. She was rushed to St. Anthony's hospital, where her injuries were treated. The affair was reported to the police, and the two rescuers

pointed out two of the men to de-lectives, who placed them under arrest. The two in custody are John Pavich and Charles Fredricy, who gave the name of the third as Wal-ter Schultz. Attorney McGuire vol-unteered his assistance in the pros-ecution of the three men when the case comes to trial.

OFFERS TO PAY MOTHER TO LET MATTER DROP

Father of Youth Gets Mad
Because His Son is
Exposed

9-25-31

By GARLAND MACKEY
PETERSBURG, Va.—One of the most heinous criminal attacks in the history of America was per-petrated here Thursday when a 17-year-old white youth brutally as-saulted a 6-year-old colored girl. The child is in a serious condi-tion and is not expected to live. The colored citizens of the city are wrought up over the attack and there has been some talk of a lynch-ing. White persons tried to hide the crime and the local daily pa-per buried the story on an inside page at the bottom of a column. Hardly a bare half inch of space was given the rape. The man has been released under \$2,500 bond. Where colored men have been suspected of crime the same paper plays it up on the front page.

Child Wanted Doll House

The little brown-skinned baby was at home playing with her dolls on the day of the attack. She thought it would be nice to have a house for her babies, and went to a grocery store on New street to ask for one.

When she reached the store, the proprietor's son, Merritt Bragg, was alone and induced the child to go into a back room for the box. He followed her and fastened

the door. The attack took place in this room. The child went home crying and told her mother and older sister.

Child's Body Lacerated

When the mother saw the condi-tion of the child she called Dr. J. B. Darden, one of the city's lead-ing colored physicians. When he reached the house and examined the child he refused to render aid without the presence of witnesses. Dr. George H. Reese, a white phy-sician was called, together with a white policewoman. All three saw the terrible condition of the child. Her body was brutally lacerated.

Offered to Pay Mother

Dr. George H. Reese, a white phy-the child to police headquarters. Later the man was arrested and released under \$2,500 bond. At first Bragg denied the attack, but Later the man was arrested and ferred to pay the mother and hos-pital bill for the child if the mat-ter was dropped.

White Daddy Gets Mad

According to the testimony of the mother, the father of the man came to her home on Friday and said the mother owed him an apol-ogy for exposing her son. The mother is a widow and works out.

The best counsel in the city has been retained to assist Common-wealth Attorney Charles E. Pol-lard. Colored people are highly indignant and are determined to prevent the attempt to railroad the case through the Domestic Re-lations Court. Hundreds of col-ored men have been electrocuted and lynched for far less brutal crimes in Virginia.

RAPES COLORED CHILD

DETROIT, Mich. July 23 — (A-PP) Louis Smith, white, aged 29, who committed a rape on a six-year old colored girl in the vicinity of her home on June 6, was tried before Judge Edwards Jeffries of Record-ers court here Friday and found guilty. The crime was said to have been committed in the dusk of the evening and in full view of many small children. The testimony of character witnesses was ripped to pieces by the persecution when it was brought out that Smith had had numerous affairs with little girls whom he always enticed by

offering them a ride on his bicycle. While the man was not convicted of statutory rape as was charged, the jury brought in a verdict of guilty of indecent and improper liberties with a female person. The penalty is from one to ten years.

16-YR.-OLD OPA YOUTH HELD BY POLICE

PETERSBURG, Va.—The citizenry of this city are greatly incensed over what is branded as one of the most atrocious crimes perpetrated here and are urging the prosecution of 16-year-old Merritt Bragg, Jr., the son of a white grocer, who criminally as-saulted a six-year-old child in his father's store.

The child, while playing at home, decided that she wanted a doll house and went to the corner grocery to obtain a box. The youth, who is large for his age, was the only one in the store, and sent the child to the rear to pick out the size she wanted. He followed her and com-mitted the attack, brutally tearing her clothing and bruising her body.

Calls Witnesses

When the child was finally released and went home crying in a bloody condition, Dr. James B. Darden was called in to attend her, but found the child in such a serious condition that he refused to do so without witnesses, so Dr. George H. Reese, white, was called in along with a policewoman, who witnessed the treatment and note the inhuman evidences of the attack to which the child had been subjected.

The father of the boy flew into a rage and went to the home of the widowed mother of the child, threat-ening her if she did not apologize for exposing his son. The youth was placed under bond for court trial and a special counse lwas appointed to aid the prosecution to curb any effort to rush the case through without fitting punishment.

The ministerial alliance adopted resolutions to be presented to the court demanding that the full extent of the law be imposed just as though the justice were the reverse.

3498

17 Year Old White Youth Attacks 6 Yr. Old Negro Girl

Offer To Pay Child's Mother If She Would Let
the Matter Drop

BOY'S FATHER DISLIKES EXPOSURE

Child Lured By Boy Into Father's Store Where
the Attack Occurred

Petersburg, Va.—One of the most heinous criminal attacks in the history of America was perpetrated here Thursday when a 17 year old white youth brutally assaulted a 6 year old colored girl.

The child is in a serious condition and is not expected to live. The colored citizens of the city are wrought up over the attack and there has been some talk of a lynching. White persons tried to hide the crime and the local daily paper buried the story on an inside page at the bottom of a column. Hardly a bare half inch of space was given the rape. The man has been released under \$2,500 bond. Where colored men have been suspected of crime the same paper plays it up on the front page.

Child Wanted Doll House

The little brown-skinned baby was at home playing with her doll on the day of the attack. She thought it would be nice to have a house for her babies, and went to a grocery store on New street to ask for one.

When she reached the store, the proprietor's son, Merritt Bragg, was alone and induced the child to go into a back room for the box. He followed her and fastened the door.

The attack took place in this room. The child went home crying and told her mother and elder sister.

When the mother saw the condition of the child she called Dr. J. B. Darden, one of the city's leading colored physicians. When he reached the house and examined the child he refused to render aid without the presence of witnesses. Dr. George H. Reese, a white physician was called, together with a white policewoman. All these saw the terrible condition of the

THE SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD white boy who raped a six-year-old colored child in Petersburg, Virginia, has neither been lynched nor burned. He enjoys his freedom on a twenty-five hundred dollar bond. But his father is very indignant at the exposure of his gallant and virtuous son. The Negro parents should apologize to the young man who outraged their baby for being so thoughtless and discourteous as to talk about it.

Suppose that had been a seventeen-year-old black boy and a six-year-old white child!

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
TRIBUNE

JUL 8 1931

Lynchings at the Half-Way Mark.

The record of lynchings for the first half of 1931 shows only five victims of mob violence in the United States and there seems to be more than a fair likelihood, therefore, that the 50-year low mark established in 1929 may be equalled or excelled this year. The showing up to July 1 would be considered remarkable in any year, but in a period of depression it must be regarded as particularly so, for a study of lynchings over half a century suggests some definite relationship between hard times and the frequency of this type of crime. Of especial interest is the report from Tuskegee that in the six months just passed 32 lynchings have been prevented by officers of the law, with southern states frustrating the would-be killers 28 times and northern and western states thwarting them in the remaining cases. In six instances these officers used force to keep the mob at bay, and in the other attempts at lynching, prisoners were removed or the guards increased to attain the same ends.

To us the record of official resistance against mob savagery seems more important than the record of lynchings itself. No doubt there will always be would-be lynchers, but so long as there are officers of the law with the courage and will to oppose them they can hardly be expected to succeed in their cowardly conspiracies. That there is a steadily increasing number of officers who have that courage and will, and who are not afraid to exercise their authority in defiance of the pack, is indicated by the records thus far available for 1931. There has been a stiffening of the official spine throughout the country, and it is a development which can be traced, in a very large degree, to a public conscience which has been thoroughly aroused against the brutality and barbarism of a type of crime which has been hideously identified with this country for years.

DALLAS, TEX.

Times

JUL 7 1931

LYNCHING IS ON THE DECLINE.

A BULLETIN mailed out by the Tuskegee Institute affords some hope that the lynching evil is gradually subsiding.

Only five lynchings occurred during the first six months of this year, and only two of these were in the South, proper. These two were in Mississippi.

Jan. - June

One lynching occurred in North Dakota, and one each in the border states of Tennessee and Missouri. In view of the unusual prevalence of violent crime, the record for this year is reasonably low.

This year has, however, not established a new low mark. Only five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1924 and 1928, and only four during the same period of 1929. Nine instances were reported during the first half of 1930, but in 1922 thirty cases had been reported before July 1, and in 1921, thirty-six cases had been reported before that date.

It is encouraging to note that the bulletin cites thirty-two instances this year where officers saved prisoners from mobs. Twenty-eight of these cases were in the Southern states. In six instances it was necessary for the officers to use force to stop the mobs.

Sentiment against lynching is growing stronger in the South, and indications are that officers are becoming more determined in their efforts to protect prisoners. When officers become convinced that public sentiment is behind them in defying mobs, the lynching problem will be near solution.

TOPEKA, KANS.
CAPITAL

JUL 8 1931

This Year's Lynch Record.

Tuskegee Institute's lynching report, for the first six months of 1931 is favorable, but five lynchings occurring during this period, which is the lowest lynching record, with the exception of the first half of 1929, when four persons were lynched. The offenses occurred this year as follows: Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, North Dakota 1 and Tennessee 1. Four of the five persons lynched were Negroes.

Public opinion against lynch law is crystallizing, South as well as in other sections, and, hardly less important, public authorities are actively on the side of orderly procedure in cases of crime. In the last six months Principal Moton of Tuskegee reports that there were 32 instances where officers of the law prevented lynching bees by prompt and firm action, 28 of these cases being in Southern states. This positive activity by officers of the law would not be witnessed for the steady development of public opinion. "Thus", remarks Dr. Moton, "a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

CHICKASHA, OKLA.
EXPRESS

JUL 7 1931

LYNCHING RECORD THIS YEAR.

During the first six months of the present year there were five lynchings in the United States. This, with other interesting facts, is carried in a bulletin issued by Tuskegee Institute, which gives comparisons as follows:

"This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1."

ATLANTA, GA.
CONSTITUTION

JUL 9 1931

LYNCHINGS ARE ABATING.

It is gratifying to learn from records kept at Tuskegee Institute that in the first six months of this year there were but five lynchings. That is four less than in the same period of 1930. Ten years ago, 1921, there were 36 lynchings in the first six months of that year. Almost every year since the number of mob executions has been decreasing until there were only four lynchings in the first half year of 1929.

However, if it had not been for the vigilance and courage of officers of the law there might have been more mob murders in the past six months than the 36 in the same period 10 years ago, for since January 1 this year there were 32 instances in which lynchings were

prevented by officers of the law. That fact is highly creditable to the officers in charge of prisoners wanted by the mobs, but it is not encouraging to those who hoped the mob spirit was dying out from the people.

Eventually that spirit will have few friends and mob murders will become as rare as formal duels are today in a region where they were once the order of social life. Lynchings are just plain unpardonable murders and our civilization is to be congratulated that our law officers are more effectually saving prisoners from such murders at the hands of savage mobs.

3537

A Report On Lynchings.

Without comment, Robert R. Moton, Principal of Tuskegee, sends out the latest report on lynchings in this country for the first six months of 1931.

As stark and sorrowful as is the record thus put down against our civilization, it is by no means the unrelieved tale of barbarism that earlier stories were wont to tell.

In the six months just passed there have been 32 instances in which the efforts of mobs were circumvented, or in which the mob was defied and worsted by the forces of the law and the horror prevented.

In twenty-six cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented.

In six cases, force was used to protect the threatened men, with four of these occasions of frustrated violence having their scenes laid in the Northern and Western states, and 28 in the South.

Counting all cases, there were 55 people, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, saved from death at the hands of mobs.

With this record comes good reason for hope that a dark chapter of American life is approaching its close.

The time has come when sheriffs, jailers, and military protectors of prisoners accept with heroic devotion the legal duty of defending them from danger.

In many instances not only may it be said that the intended victim was rescued from illegal and brutish death, but that the mob itself was saved from the shame of its own fury.

Increasing honor is being given the men, and now and then a woman, who hold it a duty to protect the prisoners under their charge, and who are fearless in doing it.

Mob barbarity can hardly persist in the face of loyal and honest defiance like this, with the matter further insured by recent law to the effect that a sheriff is held responsible for the safety of his prisoner.

Further figures in the record issued by Dr. Moton report five lynchings as the actual number of those that have occurred between January and June of the present year, two of them in Mississippi, one in Missouri, one in North Dakota, and one in Tennessee. Of the five, one victim was white and four were Negroes.

Dr. Moton enlarges the record with some comparative figures that strengthen its value. He says:

I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings.

This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less

than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The matter is not a pleasant one to consider, nor is the study of it an occupation conducive to pride.

But that thought of it is necessary goes without saying, with the growing horror that each new contemplation brings, a believable assurance that our worth while people will not much longer countenance even an occasional brutality of this like.

ERIE PA DISPATCH HERALD
MONDAY, JULY 6, 1931.

Lynchings Grow Less

Tuskegee Institute reports five lynchings for the half year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous sheriff. Such cases are now rare.

More than one southern governor has stiffened the backbone of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

PARIS (KY) BOURBON NEWS JULY 3, 1931

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

According to the compiled records at Tuskegee Institute, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number of 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number of 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926, and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 23 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Norfolk Va. Ledger Dispatch

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee, releases the lynching record for the first six months of 1931, as compiled by Tuskegee's department of records and research. It is more than usually interesting, both in its detail and in the inferences to be drawn from it.

To begin with, the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1931 was only 5. That, Dr. Moton finds, is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927; 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923;

25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922; and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The inference is almost inevitable that the general wave of recklessness and lawlessness that swept over the country, if not the world, for the first few years following the close of the World War was responsible for the shameful records of 1921, 1922 and 1923. It also almost deduces itself that the recession of this wave is responsible, in part, for the reasonably encouraging record of this year—so far.

Dr. Moton also reports that there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states, and 28 in Southern states. In 26 instances, he reports, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, while in 6 force was employed to save the prisoners. Altogether, says Dr. Moton, 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings were perpetrated and the number in each were: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Dr. Moton makes no comment whatever on this record. It is, to repeat, an encouraging record. But the record will never be clean until in every instance the officers of the law do their full duty, which is to protect their prisoners at the risk of their own lives. That would make the record clean, for a mob is always both a fool and a coward. If officers did their full duty, there would be no lynchings.

Lynching Statistics

The lynching statistics for the first half of 1931 are encouraging because of the few recorded. While any lynching at all is a sufficient cause for national chagrin, still it must be remembered, according to the records, that the first half of 1922 recorded 30 lynchings. Only five are recorded for the first six months of 1931, according to the Tuskegee figures.

This low figure has given rise to jubilation among Southern white people and the women. The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching has issued a statement, signed by 44 women from 14 southern states, and representing many hundreds more who are organized in similar associations, saying:

"The report from Tuskegee Institute on record of lynchings for the first half of 1931 brings much encouragement to increasing numbers of Southern people who have committed themselves to an unceasing fight against this crime. . . . The newspapers of the South with very few exceptions have had a leading part in this result. They have not confined their activities to condemnation of lynchings in the abstract, but they have been tireless in support of the governors, officers of the law and courageous citizens who by united action have prevented mob execution against 49 persons within the Southern states alone. Every effort against lynching has received wholehearted co-operation in the editorial columns of the Southern press. . . ."

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

CHAMBERSEURG (Pa.) OPINION
Wednesday, July 1, 1931

55 SAVED FROM MOBS IN 1931; FIVE LYNCHED

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 1—The principal of Tuskegee Institute, Robert R. Moton, today announced that there were five lynchings in this country in the first six months of 1931. This is four less than in the same period last year.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

July 9, 1931
CHISHOLM MINN TRIB-HRLD

Lynching Record For First Half Year

According to information received from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., the Lynching record for the first six months of 1931 were that the number of lynchings for the first six months of 1931; 1 more than the number for the first six months of 1929.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses

charged were attempted rape 3 and murder 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred are Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; North Dakota 1 and Tennessee 1.

July 1, 1931

BROWNWOOD TEX BULLETIN

A semi-annual report of lynchings in the United States has been received from the Tuskegee Normal Institute, showing that during the first five months of this year only five lynchings were recorded. This is a better record than usual, and especially gratifying because Texas does not appear in the list of states in which there has been mob outlaws since January first. Two lynchings occurred in Mississippi, one in Missouri, one in Tennessee and one in North Dakota.

THE explanation for the decreased number of lynchings probably is found in the fact, reported by the Tuskegee school, that during the half year there were thirty-two instances in which officers foiled the efforts of mobs to lynch prisoners. A total of fifty-five persons accused of crime were kept out of the hands of would-be lynchings. That is a splendid testimonial to the efficiency and fidelity of the officers of those states in which foul crimes have aroused the passions of the people.

The Tuskegee Institute is a normal college for negroes, operated at Tuskegee, Alabama. It was founded by Booker T. Washington, patron saint of the colored race in the United States and operated by him as president until his death a few years ago. Not much is said about the institute, but it is doing a very splendid work in the training of negroes for self-sustaining crafts and professions. It is a tremendous institution, too. It has as many students as the University of Texas, occupies about four sections of land, and has more than a hundred buildings.

SALISBURY (N.C.) POST
Thursday, July 2, 1931

LYNCHINGS FOR SIX MONTHS

The records of lynchings in the United States is kept each year with great accuracy and faithfulness by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama, and the statistics for the first six months of the present year are now available. According to the records there were five lynchings for the first half of the year, as against nine for the same period last year, though one more than the same time the year before that.

Jan. - June

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 25 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

MINN PA PUBLIC LEDGER
JULY 5, 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous Sheriff. Such cases are now rare. More than one Southern Governor has stiffened the backbones of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

HAVANA (Cuba) POST
Thursday, July 9, 1931

STILL A FIGHT

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute show that there were five lynchings during the first six months of this year. This is four less than were recorded during the same period of last year.

The 1930 record was a bad one. There were more than twice as many such crimes as in 1929. Prior to that time the number was steadily diminishing. The year when lynchings would be cut to the irreducible minimum seemed in prospect. Last year's figures showed that the campaign against them could not be relinquished.

This year's drop was an improvement. The frustration of lynchings in 32 instances by officers of the law, likewise, was in one sense encouraging; but the total of 32 attempted lynchings shows how deeply the evil is rooted.

From
Pittsburgh
JUL 11 1931

MISS. MOB LAW HEADS LIST WITH TWO DEAD

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 9—In the first six months of the current year there were five lynchings in the United States, according to the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute. "This number," adds the report of the department, "is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number, four, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number, 11, for the first six months

of 1927, and is four less than the number, eight, for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925, and is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 26 less than the 31 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

3538

FLORIDA
DATE

Lynch Record

There were five lynchings for the first six months of 1931, against nine for a similar period in 1930, the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute report.

This improved record is based on numerous instances such as that in Marion county several months ago, when a negro attacker was rescued from a crowd by quick-thinking, quick-acting authorities, held safely in safe jails, and then given speedy trial. Justice—justice as determined by the law—was given the negro, and the lynch record has been improved.

There is gradual improvement throughout the nation in this respect.

UNION CITY (N.J.) HUDSON DISPATCH

Thursday, July 2, 1931

UNITED STATES SHOWS
DECREASE IN LYNCHING

The number of lynchings which have taken place throughout the United States during the first six months of 1931 was four, against nine lynchings in the first six months of 1930, and 11 in the same period of 1927, according to statistics compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial School, Alabama.

In 32 other attempted lynchings, officers of the law prevented the mob from carrying out its violence. In six of the cases where the mob was frustrated, it was necessary for state troopers or other law enforcement agencies to use armed force to accomplish a rescue.

Of the persons lynched, one was white, and four negroes. The crimes charged against them were, in three cases, attempted rape, in the other two, murder.

TAMPA TRIBUNE

FLORIDA
DATE

JUL 6 1931

Fewer Lynchings

Dr. Moton, of the Tuskegee Institute, has issued his semi-annual statement of lynchings. The record shows improvement. Florida, we are happy to note, has a clean record for this year.

In the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

LOUIS MO. POST-DISPATCH
JULY 10, 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1931.

Figures compiled at Tuskegee Institute for the first six months of this year show a considerable decrease in the number of lynchings. Only five mob murders were reported in that time. This compares as follows with totals for the 10 preceding half-years:

1930.....9	1927.....11	1923.....15
1929.....4	1926.....9	1922.....30
1928.....5	1925.....9	1921.....36
	1924.....5	

It has been commonly observed that lynchings increase in periods of economic distress, being stimulated by idleness and keener competition between the races for work. Hence a gain for 1931 had been predicted. Comparison with the figures for 1921 and 1922, previous depression years, show that law and order are making an excellent showing over the forces of unrest usually unleashed by hard times.

Even more than in the reduced total, however, a favorable sign for American civilization is found in the number of lynchings prevented. Officers of the law in 32 instances prevented violence, Tuskegee reports, saving 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, from mobs. In all of 1929, only 27 instances occurred in which mobs were turned back. Conscientious sheriffs and police thus must be credited with a large share in this social progress. The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynchings extends the credit to Southern newspapers which have supported its campaign. It is apparent that the public conscience over the nation is awakening to the necessity for eradicating this evil, and is converting good resolves into tangible records. In a year of such notable progress, the blot of the Maryville outrage looms the blacker on Missouri's name.

July 10, 1931 71
ST. LOUIS MO POST DISPATCH

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1931.

Figures compiled at Tuskegee Institute for the first six months of this year show a considerable decrease in the number of lynchings. Only five mob murders were reported in that time. This compares as follows with totals for the 10 preceding half-years:

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CONCORD (No. Carolina) TRIBUNE
Wednesday, July 1, 1931FIVE LYNCHINGS IN
FIRST SIX MONTHS

Four Less In United States Than In The First Six Months of Last Year.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—In the first six months of the current year there were five lynchings in the United States according to the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute. "This number," adds the report of the department, "is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number, four, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number, 11, for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number, eight, for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; and is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states, and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

From Times
Waterbury
JUL 5 1931

The Lynching Record.

To The Times:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year, as had according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. Moton, Principal.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama,
July 1, 1931.

Lynchings-1931
Reports on, Sent Press.

3539

Jan.-June

Tampa Bulletin
(Colored)
FLORIDA
DATE JUL 4 1931

Dr. Moton Says 5 Lynched in U. S. First 6 Month 1931

The following letter from the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute, shows that there were five lynchings in the United States for the first six months of the present year. The letter is signed by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of the year 1924; 10 less than the number 5 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

HELENA ARK WORLD LYNCHING RECORD SHOWS DECREASE FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF PRESENT YEAR

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, has issued the following statement relative to lynchings in the United States during the first half of 1931:

"Dear Sir:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of the year 1924; 10 less than the number 5 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

ROANOKE (Va.) WORLD NEWS
Saturday, July 4, 1931
THE LYNCHING RECORD.
(From the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch.)
Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee, releases the lynching record for the first six months of 1931, as compiled by Tuskegee's department of records and research. It is more than usually interesting, both in its detail and in the inferences to be drawn from it.

To begin with, the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1931 was only 5. That, Dr. Morton finds, is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927; 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922; and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The inference is almost inevitable that the general wave of recklessness and lawlessness that swept over the country, if not the world, for the first few years following the close of the World War was responsible for the shameful records of 1921, 1922 and 1923. It also almost deduces itself that the recession of this wave is responsible, in part, for the reasonably encouraging record of this year—so far.

Dr. Moton also reports that there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States, and 28 in Southern States. In 26 instances, he reports, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, while in 6 force was employed to save the prisoners. Altogether, says Dr. Moton, 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings were perpetrated and the number in each were: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Dr. Moton makes no comment whatever on this record. It is, to repeat, an encouraging record. But the record will never be clean until in every instance the officers of the law do their full duty, which is to protect their prisoners at the risk of their own lives. That would make the record clean, for a mob is always both a fool and a coward. If officers did their full duty, there would be no lynchings.

Ft. Pierce Weekly Star
FLORIDA
DATE JUL 9 1931

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

An encouraging report on lynchings has been sent out by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, showing that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings, or 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925. The number has steadily decreased since 1921 when there were 36 lynchings.

Much propaganda has been put out by the press against mob law, together with the concerted efforts of many organizations and institutions, and figures prove that it has been effective. Mob rule was at one time a dangerous menace in the smaller communities of this country, and it has become unpopular through public disapproval. The many instances on record of misjudgment and mistake on the part of mobs has done much toward the reduction of lynchings.

During one year not far distant, Florida lead the United States in lynchings. It is pleasing to note that the name of Florida is missing for the first six months of 1931. Mississippi led with 2, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee each had 1, this year. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 negroes, 3 charged with attempted rape, and 2 with murder.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were

in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used, making a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negro, who were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Civilization will not tolerate mob rule, which is often proven unjust and ruthless. In addition to the blood of the victim which is upon the heads of those who participate in these atrocities, whole communities are stirred up for weeks at a time, and much damage is done to the morale of its people, as well as the regular course of law. It is indeed gratifying to learn that we are showing an inclination to allow our duly appointed officers to take the necessary steps to curb crime, and that they are becoming well organized in the prevention of lynchings, and the rule of the mob.

AUBURN IND. DISPATCH

MOB MURDERS

Five mob murders, figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute show, occurred in the United States in the first six months of 1931. There were nine in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Only once in the last decade was there a better showing—in 1929, when four lynchings were listed between January 1 and June 30. The peak total in the half year covered by the report came in 1921, when thirty-six persons died at the hands of mobs. Barbarism in this form can, and does, resurge unexpectedly in an aggravated manner, yet there seems to be warrant for believing that the trend downward has become persistent.

Support of such a view may be found in a study of the latest statistics. While five exhibitions of savagery prevailed in all their odium to communities terming themselves civilized, sheriffs and other law enforcement officials prevented violence in thirty-two instances, saving fifty-five individuals, ten whites and forty-five negroes from mobs. As long as a single lynching occurs there is, of course, abundant cause to be aroused at the degradation of the procedure; but it is greatly to the credit of our society and its authorities that more and more they

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find themselves capable of keeping jungle passions from a type of slaughter that defies and undermines social institutions of proved merit.

The distressing lynching toll of the first half of 1921 and 1922, when thirty such killings occurred, was ascribed in part to the economic distress then prevailing. There has been no duplication of the record in the present recession, despite a far from satisfactory general crime situation. It is a gratifying sign that the popular conscience is improving in a direction where improvement promises to be most auspicious in its bearings on self-respecting citizenship.

STAUNTON (Va.) NEWS LEADER

Friday, July 10, 1931

Fewer Lynchings In 1931

(Norfolk Virginian-Pilot)

Tuskegee Institute's semi-annual report on lynchings in the United States, with its listing of five instances in which mob law has prevailed, suggests that the current year will fall more in line with the decreasing number of lynchings during the past ten years than 1930 did. If the same rate holds for the second six months of 1931, the full year will show ten lynchings. That would be ten too many. It would however, bring the record back to the 1929 total and would be one less than the 1928 total. Should that happen the downward cure of lynchings which has been most pronounced for the past ten years would be fairly regular with the exception of two conspicuously bad years, 1926 and 1930.

To a certain extent, 1926 appears explainable. The lynching increase then was largely in Florida, and that State was undergoing a period of social unrest as a result of the land boom and the floating population it drew. No such explanation is available for 1930. Hypotheses based upon depressed economic conditions have been suggested, but in the light of the greatly improved lynching record for the first six months of this year, all such ideas have lost plausibility. Economic conditions did not improve in the first half of 1931. Yet the number of lynchings sharply decreased.

The uncertainties in these comparisons draws attention once more to the importance of a serious study of lynchings such as

has been undertaken by a special committee named by the Inter-racial Commission. That study is now in progress, based in large part upon a minute case history of every lynching in recent years, with experienced sociologists and students of race relations sifting the information in the effort to draw some definite conclusions. Meantime, the record for the past ten years shows sufficient progress to demonstrate the advisability of continuing the steady pressure which has brought about striking improvement in that period.

WATERTOWN (New York) TIMES

Friday, July 3, 1931

The Lynching Record.

To The Times:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force

was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. Moton, Principal.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.
July 1, 1931.

AUBURN, IND., COURIER

Friday, July 17, 1931

MOB MURDERS

Five mob murders, figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute show, occurred in the United States in the first six months of 1931. There were nine in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Only once in the last decade was there a better showing—in 1929, when four lynchings were listed between January 1 and June 30. The peak total in the half year covered by the report came in 1921, when thirty-six persons died at the hands of mobs. Barbarism in this form can, and does, resurge unexpectedly in an aggravated manner, yet there seems to be warrant for believing that the trend downward has become persistent.

Support of such a view may be found in a study of the latest statistics. While five exhibitions of savagery prevailed in all their odium to communities terming themselves civilized, sheriffs and other law enforcement officials prevented violence in thirty-two instances, saving fifty-five individuals, ten whites and forty-five negroes from mobs. As long as a single lynching occurs there is, of course, abundant cause to be aroused at the degradation of the procedure; but it is greatly to the credit of our society and its authorized agents that more and more they find themselves capable of keeping jungle passions from a type of slaughter that defies and undermines social institutions of proved merit.

The distressing lynching toll of the first half of 1921 and 1922, when thirty such killings occurred, was ascribed in part to the economic distress then prevailing. There has been no duplication of the record in the present recession, despite a far from satisfactory general crime situation. It is a gratifying sign that the popular conscience is improving in a direction where improvement promises to be most auspicious in its bearings on self-respecting citizenship.

From

REPORT 5 LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

Special Dispatch to The Gazette
TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than

for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes.

BOSTON MASS. C. S. MONITOR

JULY 15, 1931

LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH SHOW DECREASE

SPECIAL TO THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR
ATLANTA, Ga.—"The report from Tuskegee Institute on the records of lynchings for the first half of 1931 brings much encouragement to increasing numbers of southern people who have committed themselves to an unceasing fight against this crime," according to a statement issued by the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

The lynching record for the first six months of 1931 again reached the low level of five for the six months' period, as against an average of about ten times that many for like periods throughout the last half century. Primarily, credit for this steady decrease in lynching is to be given to the newspapers of this section, the church groups, the officers of the law and the growing opposition to lynching on the part of thousands of southern white women.

BROOKLYN N. Y. EAGLE

Monday, July 6, 1931

The Tuskegee survey shows five lynchings in the first six months of 1931, but it also shows that in our Southern States twenty-eight lynchings were prevented by official courage and firmness. Dixie isn't wholly incorrigible.

July 2, 1931

GUTHRIE OKLA. REGISTER

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1931 COMPILED

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first months of

1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder 2.

These states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

HOLYOKE (Mass.) TRANSCRIPT

Friday, July 10, 1931

It Can Be Done

A notable improvement for law enforcement along a line which at one time was considered quite as hopeless of improvement as the Volstead act ever was, is recorded by the lynching records kept by Tuskegee Institute. In the first six months of the year the number lynched was five, well below the average in recent years and only about the monthly average for ten years ago. But they reveal something else, of much greater significance. It is that in thirty-two instances, involving fifty-five persons (white and black), rigid performances of duty by sheriffs and other officers of the law prevented mob violence. It is indicated that similar action might have prevented most of the five lynchings that actually occurred.

Of the thirty-two cases of prevention, twenty-eight were in the South, a heartening example of the growth of public sentiment, reflected in official vigilance, against a disgraceful display of lawlessness in America.

Lynchings 1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

GREENVILLE, O., ADVOCATE
Wednesday, July 15, 1931

MOB MURDERS

Mob murders, figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute show occurred in the United States in the first six months of 1931. There were nine in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Only once in the last decade was there a better showing—in 1929, when four lynchings were listed between January 1 and June 30. The peak total in the half year covered by the report came in 1921, when thirty-six persons died at the hands of mobs. Barbarism in this form can and does, resurge unexpectedly in an aggravated manner, yet there seems to be warrant for believing that the trend downward has become persistent.

Support of such a view may be found in a study of the latest statistics. While five exhibitions of savagery prevailed in all their odium to communities terming themselves civilized, sheriffs and other law enforcement officials prevented violence in thirty-two instances, saving fifty-five individuals, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, from mobs. As long as a single lynching occurs there is, of course, abundant cause to be aroused at the degradation of the procedure; but it is greatly to the credit of our society and its authorized agents that more and more they find themselves capable of keeping jungle passions from a type of slaughter that defies and undermines social institutions of proved merit.

The distressing lynching toll of the first half of 1921 and 1922, when thirty such killings occurred, was ascribed in part to the economic distress then prevailing. There has been no duplication of the record in the present recession, despite a far from satisfactory general crime situation. It is a gratifying sign that that popular conscience is improving in a direction where improvement promises to be most auspicious in its bearings on self-respecting citizenship.

July 2, 1931
GALVESTON TEX. NEWS
INSTITUTE RECORDS SHOW
FIVE LYNCHINGS IN 1931

Special to the News.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 1.—
Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records

ords and research show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number (nine) for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number (four) for the first six months of 1929.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes.

The state in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

July 2, 1931

BRYAN TEX EAGLE (Wm.)

Five Lynchings Recorded in First Half 1931

Lynchings did not gain in number, as compared to former periods, during the first six months of 1931 according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute. Five lynchings were recorded the first six months of this year. This was four less than the number for the first six months of 1930.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 were in southern states. A total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from mobs.

Of the number lynched one was white and four negroes. The lynchings occurred in Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

July 9, 1931

WINNSBORO TEX NEWS

Lynching Record For The First Six Months of 1931.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there

were 5 lynchings. This is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the first six months of 1928; six less than the number for first six months of 1927; and is four less than the number for the first months of each of the years 1926, and 1925; it is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number for the first six month of 1923; twenty-five less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. This a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; WINDER (GEORGIA) NEWS
Thursday, July 2, 1931

Lynchings First Six Months of This Year

During the first six months there were five lynchings, according to the report sent out from Tuskegee Institute. Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. Ten whites and 45 negroes were saved from lynching by the efforts of the officers of the law. The lynchings occurred as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Jan. - June

3540

July 7, 1931

DALLAS, TEX. HERALD

LYNCHING IS ON THE DECLINE.

A BULLETIN mailed out by the Tuskegee Institute affords some hope that the lynching evil is gradually subsiding.

Only five lynchings occurred during the first six months of this year, and only two of these were in the South, proper. These two were in Mississippi.

One lynching occurred in North Dakota, and one each in the border states of Tennessee and Missouri. In view of the unusual prevalence of violent crime, the record for this year is reasonably low.

This year has, however, not established a new low mark. Only five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1924 and 1928, and only four during the same period of 1929. Nine instances were reported during the first half of 1930, but in 1922 thirty cases had been reported before July 1, and in 1921, thirty-six cases had been reported before that date.

It is encouraging to note that the bulletin cites thirty-two instances this year where officers saved prisoners from mobs. Twenty-eight of these cases were in the Southern states. In six instances it was necessary for the officers to use force to stop the mobs.

Sentiment against lynching is growing stronger in the South, and indications are that officers are becoming more determined in their efforts to protect prisoners. When officers become convinced that public sentiment is behind them in defying mobs, the lynching problem will be near solution.

July 9, 1931

ADA OK. DAILY NEWS

LYNCHING RECORD THIS YEAR

During the first six months of the present year there were five lynchings in the United States. This, with other interesting facts, is carried in a bulletin issued by Tuskegee Institute, which gives comparisons as follows:

"This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than

BIRMINGHAM ALA. POST
JULY 15, 1931

LYNCHINGS DROP FOR SIX MONTHS

Decrease Due To Many Causes, Report Says

The lynching record in the United States for the first six months of 1931 is five, compared to an average of about 50 for similar periods thruout the last half century, according to reports from the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

Mrs. W. J. Adams, a member of the Birmingham organization, said in an interview, primary credit in this reduction is due to newspaper, church groups, law officers, growing opposition on the part of southern white women and individuals who have taken effective action against mobs. These agencies have aided in preventing mob execution against 49 persons in the south this year, she explained.

The association is a branch of the Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation. The Birmingham group was organized in early spring by Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, from Atlanta headquarters. Mrs. J. H. McCoy is local chairman.

A statement of gratification on the reduction has been signed by Mrs. Adams, Mrs. McCoy and 42 other representative church and club women of the south.

the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee 1."

CITIZEN

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

TIMES

JUL 1 1931

Lynchings In 1931

THE most encouraging feature of Tuskegee Institute's report on lynching for the first half of 1931 is found in this statement of fact:

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states, 28 in the South.

As to the lynching record itself, five persons were unlawfully put to death as compared with nine in the first six months of 1930.

In six instances law officers used force to repel mobs; in the 26 others the prisoners were removed or the guarding force was augmented.

Therefore the report, speculating in the field of strong probabilities, states that 55 persons, 10 Whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from illegal death.

As usual, the record makes it clear that lynching is not confined to one race for its victims, nor is one crime alone the provocation.

Of those lynched, one was white and four were colored. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The outstanding moral from this record is that lynching can be prevented if the officers of the law are prepared for emergencies—and determined to maintain the supremacy of the law.

NEWS
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

JUL 10 1931

LYNCHINGS

While no good citizen will be satisfied until lynching shall have been completely wiped out, there is some consolation in the statistics of the crime for the first six months of this year. As just published by the Tuskegee Institute the record shows that five lynchings took place in that period in contrast with nine in the corresponding period of last year. The curve, however, has been upward and downward over the last ten or eleven years. Taking the first six months of each of those years we find the number of lynchings as follows: 1922, 30; 1923, 15; 1924, 5; 1925, 9; 1926, 9; 1927, 11; 1928, 5; 1929, 4; 1930, 9; 1931, 5. Of the persons lynched this year one was white and four were Negroes. The crimes charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

Apart from the reduction in the actual number of lynchings carried out, it is satisfactory to note a growing determination on the part of the authorities to thwart bloodthirsty mobs. There were 32 cases in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States, the other 28 in the South. In 26 of these cases the mob was balked by spiriting the prisoners away or increasing the guard over them, but in six other cases the mob was defeated by force. As the result of these assertions of the law's authority and strength, 10 white and 45 Negroes were saved for trial according to orderly processes.

It is the law's resistance to the mob that will finally wipe out lynching; that, and the spread of education. Too much credit cannot be given to those public-spirited men and women of the South who have been carrying on a brave campaign against this crime, the prevalence of which is always cast up against this country by our bitterest foreign critics.

BUFFALO N Y NEWS

JULY 2, 1931

LYNCHINGS SO FAR THIS YEAR

Special to the BUFFALO EVENING NEWS.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2.—Records compiled at Tuskegee institute show that in the first six months of 1930 there were five lynchings. This number is four fewer than the number for the first six months of 1930.

PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC LEDGER

Sunday, July 5, 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous Sheriff. Such cases are now rare. More than one Southern Governor has stiffened the backbones of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

Georgia Skirts Are Clean as to Lynching

During the six months ending June 30th, Georgia has not had a lynching, thanks to the growing determination of her officials to put an end to the barbaric custom, which has brought shame and humiliation to so many states.

We have before us the records of Tuskegee Institute for the first six months of this year. They show clearly that the south is making good progress in the matter of clearing its skirts of the blood of lynched victims.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states, and twenty-eight in southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten white and forty-five negroes, were saved from death at the hands of the mobs.

This is a very commendable showing, but it is not good enough, and will not be until the lynching habit is entirely destroyed.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

Only four for the first six months. Can the country make the next six months without one?

Lynchings-1931

Report on, sent Press.
FROM

Public Ledger
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

FEWER LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

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FROM

BATAVIA, N. Y.

LYNCHINGS FOR SIX MONTHS.

Robert H. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, writes The News as follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were

five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 26 less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

FROM

Evening Post
NEW YORK CITY

JUL 2 1931 OUR LYNCHING RECORD

The five lynchings which have occurred in the first half of 1931 are fewer than the average for the period, but the brightest spots in the record are those indicating prevention of lynchings by officers of the law. Of these heartening instances of official duty in the face of popular opposition there have been thirty-two, according to the records at Tuskegee, of which four were in Northern or Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States. Force was used to repel the mob in six instances; in the remaining twenty-six the prisoners were removed or the guards increased. A total of fifty-five persons, forty-five Negroes and ten whites, was thus saved from the barbarism of mob vengeance. One of the

five persons lynched was white and one of the lynchings took place in a Northern State, North Dakota. In the growth of official determination to protect prisoners and see that they are accorded the opportunity for a trial lies the strongest guarantee for the wiping of lynching from our civilization. But this determination is to some extent a reflection of a better public opinion, both local and general. Sooner or later the horrible injustice of the slaughter of an innocent man or one whose guilt was at least doubtful and the savage lawlessness of the execution of a man whose guilt was plain and whose conviction, therefore, inevitable will impress themselves so deeply that would-be lynchings will constitute a negligible fraction of any community.

MAKELY (GEORGIA) NEWS

Thursday, July 2, 1931

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

According to statistics compiled by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., there have been only five lynchings in the first six months of 1931, as compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. This is one more than the number for the first six months of 1929, and is the same as the number for the first six months of 1928. It is six less than the number for the first six months of 1927.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

BRISTOL CONN PRESS
JULY 3, 1931

Editor Bristol Press:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

MONTCLAIR N. J. TIMES
JULY 4, 1931

To the Editor of the Times: Sir,—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number

five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922; twenty-six less than the number thirty-one for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and twenty-eight in Southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of thirty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.
August 25, 1930
DES MOINES-IA TRIBUNE

At Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., Monroe N. Work keeps statistics on racial outbreaks, which are considered the nearest to official records of extra legal punishment in existence. His figures show that since 1882 there have been 1,352 white persons and 3,390 Negroes lynched in the United States. Only four states, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont have not at one time or another in those years, gone outside the law to reap revenge.

Linked With Industry.

A study of the figures shows an interesting relationship between industrial conditions and mob violence. In 1892, 100 whites and 155 Negroes were lynched and in the following forty years 46 whites and 154 Negroes. Those were the years which set high records for lynching. They also were the years of financial and industrial depression more severe than at any other time.

By 1896, when prosperity was returning, lynchings dropped to fifty-one whites and eighty Negroes and in 1900 to eight whites and 107 Negroes. By 1914, when the war boom struck industry, the figures showed only three whites and forty-nine Negroes paid the penalty in "Judge Lynch's" grim court. But 1919, when the war

boom was passing, saw the figures go up to eighty-four. Since then the trend, until this year, has been generally downward, reaching its low level of ten in 1929.

Forty Per Cent Negroes.

To understand the present state of mind in parts of the southern states, one must remember that the close to 40 per cent of the total population south of the Mason-Dixon line are Negroes. Two states, Mississippi and South Carolina, are more than 50 per cent Negroes. In 200 counties out of 1,364 in the southern states, Negroes are in the majority.

Approximately 20 per cent of the Negroes are illiterate. There is little provision to combat feeble-mindedness, perverted development and insanity. Those things are most often reached through the schools and in the case of the mentally deficient Negro he is usually the illiterate who does not come in contact with the school.

Yet the problem is not acute to the point of violence in all parts of the south. Virginia has not had a lynching or other show of violence this year. In Louisiana, there has not been a lynching in more than two years. In many sections there seems to be apparent content.

Atlanta Is Center.

South Carolina and Georgia, perhaps, are the centers of the greatest tension and Atlanta, a city with a large industrial population of both races and chosen center for racial agitation, would appear the point of maximum unrest. It was there that the remark of a laborer to the United Press correspondent may have epitomized the present situation.

He pointed to a Negro mail carrier.

"See that fellow," the laborer said. "He's getting 60 cents an hour. Why should that black man be getting 60 cents an hour for carrying the United States mail while white men are out of jobs?"

July 2, 1931

PINE BLUFF ARK GRAPHIC FIVE LYNCHINGS IN LAST SIX MONTHS

Records of Tuskegee Institute Show That Number of Lynchings Than For First Half of 1931

According to the records of the statistical department of the Tuskegee Institute there were five lynchings during the first six months of 1931.

This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months

of 1930, one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929 and the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in the northern and western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three, and murder, two.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Ohio Post
CLEVELAND HERALD
SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1931.

Record Show Lynching On Decrease

TUSKEGEE INST., Ala., July 16.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was

white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

July 11, 1931

HOT SPRINGS ARK ECHO The Lynching Record For First Six Months of 1931

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3;

murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Very truly yours,
R. R. Moton, Principal.
YONKERS (New York) HERALD
Thursday, July 2, 1931
The Lynching Record for First Six Months of 1931

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.
July 1, 1931.

To The Yonkers Herald:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926, and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 Whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

Very truly yours,
R. W. MOTON
Principal.
BATAVIA (New York) NEWS
Thursday, July 2, 1931
LYNCHINGS FOR SIX MONTHS.

Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, writes The News as follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find

Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number 15 for the first

six months of 1923; 28 less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

WORCESTER (Mass.) GAZETTE Thursday, July 2, 1931 REPORT 5 LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

Special Dispatch to The Gazette
TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at

the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes.

Lynchings-1931

Jan - June

3542

Reports on, Sent Press, Editorial Comments on.

DISPATCH

Oracle, Ga.

JUL 7 1931

LET THE LAW EXACT ITS TOLL

The sovereign state of Alabama is receiving a great deal of notoriety and much criticism for convicting eight men on assault charges and permitting them to go to their death in the electric chair.

Russia sends in a protest saying it is "a symbol of class discrimination in America."

In Germany a committee has been formed to oppose the execution.

In this country the I. W. W. endeavors to stop the action and Theodore Dreiser, novelist, who won considerable newspaper space by slapping the face of Sinclair Lewis, adds his august presence to the opposition.

The Savannah Press caustically asks "Where do we stand anyway?" and says "A recent meeting in Atlanta of women opposed to lynching rejoices that there are comparatively so few cases this year. And yet we have not heard that they plead for respect for the law and regard the verdicts of the court."

The defense factions, the Macomber News states, have reduced the question of the guilt or innocence of the prisoners to a matter of color. To the communists, they are innocent because they are 'reds.' To the Southern baiters, they are innocent because they are blacks. The state of Alabama is being accused by one faction of being 'the capitalists executioner,' and by the other of being a 'legalized lynching mob.'

The committee from Tuskegee which sends out ever so often statistics on lynching would do better to confine its efforts to eradicate the

cause of lynching. Rape is a crime which a Southerner will not condone. As long as negroes permit some of their members to attack white women so long will we have lynching. We don't believe all the courts in the United States can stop it.

There is no use beating around the bush. Mighty few criminal assault cases are committed by white men. The Tuskegee committee has got to recognize that fact. We are disappointed of having psalm-singing hypocrites, mostly from Northern cities, assail the South on the score of lynching when they do not take into consideration the enormity of the crime which the prisoner committed.

Lynching is a terrible thing but it is in our opinion not half as bad as a criminal assault on a white woman by a beast in human form. The various anti-lynching societies might think that over.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

AGE-HERALD

JUL 27 1931

LYNCHINGS

The recent statement issued by the Department of Records and Research of Alabama, which states that this state was free from lynchings for the first half of the year, is one of the most encouraging signs in years that the people have become educated to the fact that mob justice to the extent of lynching a man is murder in its vilest form.

It is bad enough when the state sees fit to take the life of a man after giving him a fair trial, but when a man is murdered without being given the chance to explain his actions it is nothing short of barbarism, and any person who takes part in such a deed can no more call himself civilized than the African savage who sacrifices the life of a brother to please his heathen God. In fact, we believe that he is less civilized because the savage is ignorant to that extent and believes that what he does is right; while the lyncher is doing something that he has been taught from the cradle is very wrong.

There is another report that does not sound so good. It states that there were 49 attempted lynchings that were prevented by the united action of government officials in the Southern states alone. It is well to note though that

there must not have been many would-be murderers in the lynching parties, or they could not have been stopped by a few officers.—Houston Herald (Dothan).

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

Columbus La Sledge

JUL 5 1931

Statistics on Lynchings

The figures compiled relating to the number of lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1931, are encouraging to all who oppose that form of murder and believe in the trial and punishment of criminals by the juries, the courts and the sheriff. According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute there were five lynchings in the first six months of this year while there were nine during the same period of 1930.

Though the figures supplied by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of the institute, have been published they are worthy of reproduction here, as follows:

This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929, the same as the number 5 or the first six months of 1928, six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925. It is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924, ten less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The report shows there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted criminal assault, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

It will be seen that the South has made a most satisfactory and encouraging showing in its efforts to reduce lynchings. Of thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented them, 28 were in Southern states. In 26 cases prisoners were saved by removal or reinforcement of guards. In six cases force was used to combat the mobs. A total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from mob vengeance.

The records indicate that the sentiment against mob law is growing stronger in the South. Georgia

makes an excellent exhibit for the first half of the year and it is the hope of all law-abiding citizens that her record for the entire year may be without stain.

BARREMAN TENN. RECORD (wk)

JULY 2, 1931

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS 1931

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of these instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offense charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

SALVESTON TEX. NEWS

JULY 2, 1931

INSTITUTE RECORDS SHOW FIVE LYNCHINGS IN 1931

Special to The News.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 1. Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number (nine) for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number (four) for the first six months of 1929.

Jan. - June

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes.

The state in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Clayton Ala. Record
JULY 3, 1931

Lynchings In U. S. Decrease This Year

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, during the first six months of 1931, there were five lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number for the first six months of 1929, the same number for the first six months of 1928, 6 less than the number for first six months of 1927, and four less than for the years 1926 and 1925, but is the same for the first six months of 1924.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in the Southern States. In the 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and four were Ne-

groes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3, murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

COOPER TEX. REVIEW

JULY 3, 1931

Lynching Record for First 6 Months, 1931

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months in 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1, Tennessee 1.

3543

Fewer Lynchings in 1931

Tuskegee Institute's semiannual report on lynchings in the United States, with its listing of five instances in which mob law has prevailed, suggests that the current year will fall more in line with the decreasing number of lynchings during the past ten years than 1930 did. If the same rate holds for the second six months of 1931, the full year will show ten lynchings. That would be ten too many. It would, however, bring the record back to the 1929 total and would be one less than the 1928 total. Should that happen the downward curve of lynchings which has been most pronounced for the past ten years would be fairly regular with the exception of two conspicuously bad years, 1926 and 1930.

To a certain extent, 1926 appears explainable. The lynching increase then was largely in Florida, and that State was undergoing a period of social unrest as a result of the land boom and the floating population it drew. No such explanation is available for 1930. Hypotheses based upon depressed economic conditions have been suggested, but in the light of the greatly improved lynching record for the first six months of this year, all such ideas have lost plausibility. Economic conditions did not improve in the first half of 1931. Yet the number of lynchings sharply decreased.

The uncertainties in these comparisons draws attention once more to the importance of a serious study of lynchings such as has been undertaken by a special committee named by the Inter-racial Commission. That study is now in progress, based in large part upon a minute case history of every lynching in recent years, with experienced sociologists and students of race relations sifting the information in the effort to draw some definite conclusions. Meantime, the record for the past ten years shows sufficient progress to demonstrate the advisability of continuing the steady pressure which has brought about striking improvement in that period.

NEW ORLEANS LA. STATES
JULY 1, 1931

The Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE records of lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1931 are again encouraging. There were only five and but one of them in the far West.

The number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number for the same time in 1929; the same number as in 1928; six less than the

number for 1927; four less than the number each for 1926 and 1925; the same as in 1924; ten less than the number for 1923; twenty-five less than for 1922 and thirty-one less than the number for 1921.

Thirty-two instances are reported in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four in Northern and Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States, which shows the excellent effect public sentiment in this section is having on public officials. In consequence of the activity of the authorities, who either removed prisoners for safe-keeping or resisted attempted violence with force, ten whites and forty-five negroes were protected from death at the hands of mobs.

One of the victims was white, the other four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape 2 and murder 3. Two of the lynchings were in Mississippi, one in Missouri, one in Tennessee and one in North Dakota. Again Louisiana has a clean slate.

If the record in the South during the next six months is as good as in the first, we shall have reason to feel that we are making substantial progress in the attempt to uphold the supremacy of the courts in all cases of crime regardless of color.

YOUNGSTOWN OHIO VINDICATOR
MONDAY, JULY 6, 1931.

The Lynching Record

The figures concerning lynchings during the first half of the year given out by Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute make an interesting study. In the six months five lynchings occurred, only one of which was in a northern state, North Dakota. The number is four less than for the first six months of last year.

In ten years there has been a steady decrease in the number, except seven years ago when the number was the same as this year. The lowering of the number from 36 in 1921 to five this year tells only a part of the story of an aroused public sentiment against mob rule, for so far this year officers of the law prevented lynchings in 32 instances. Officers prevented seven times as many lynchings in the southern states as were prevented in northern and western states. Ten white persons and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs by officers who removed prisoners or increased the number of guards about jails. In six instances force was used, making a show of courage to discharge duty and let the law take its course.

These reports from Tuskegee department of records and research give the states which have been disgraced by lynchings an opportunity to see themselves as they are seen by the states where law and order reign. In the years the figures have been given out they have proved not the least of the influences that have brought about improved conditions, seen in the fact that lynchings so far this year occurred in only four states, Mississippi having two out of the five reported. That state can look to nearly all

others in the South for a fine example to follow.

FREEPORT N Y REVIEW
MONDAY, JULY 6, 1931.

LYNCHINGS DECLINE

The first half of 1931 has shown some improvement in law observance, at least.

The semi-annual report of lynchings in the United States, which is always issued promptly on the first of January and first of July by Major Robert R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, shows a decline of four from the first half of 1930.

While only five persons were lynched during the first half of 1931, this does not set a new low record, but is one more than was reported in the first half of 1929 and the same as for the first half of 1928.

Last year nine persons were lynched during the first half of the year, which was the largest number since 1926. The South, which has always suffered the humiliation of having the largest number of lynchings, chiefly with negro victims, shows up better than usual in the record this year.

One of the lynchings was in North Dakota and another in Missouri. The other three were in Tennessee and Mississippi, the latter reporting two. Four of the victims were negroes and one was white.

The most favorable phase of the report for the first half of the year is the number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Many of the lynchings have always been due to cowardly officers or because the officers were in sympathy with the mob instead of upholding the law they represented.

During the first six months of 1931 there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, while in six cases force was used to frustrate the attempts of mobs.

Five lynchings in half a year is a very low figure compared with the old rate at which they took place, but there is no reason whatever why mob law should not be outlawed altogether. It is a mat-

ter of putting courageous men in office to enforce the law, using good judgment in handling prisoners when feeling runs high and making sure that men guilty of desperate and atrocious crimes are not permitted to escape when their fate is left to the courts.

Confidence in the courts should be a strong factor in eliminating lynch law, although, as a matter of fact, lynchings have always been most frequent in the South where as a rule the same men would have been convicted and most of the guilty ones sentenced to death in due time. The problem so far as the South is concerned is one of vigorous protection of prisoners charged with crimes which ordinarily result in mobs.

PITTSBURG KS. HEADLIGHT
JULY 2, 1931

OFFICERS DID THEIR DUTY.

Statistics on lynchings always emphasize the number of lynchings in a given period and make comparison with similar periods. But the figures just announced for the first six months of this year by Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute contain the interesting information that there were 32 instances in the half year period in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Five persons have been lynched this year, four being negroes and one a white man. The lynchings occurred in Mississippi, where there were two, and in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee. In three cases the crime of which the victims were accused was attempted rape and in the other two murder.

An interesting feature of the statistics showing that officers of the law proved true to their responsibility and successfully protected persons from mobs is the fact that of the 32 cases, only four were in northern or western states while 28 were in southern states. In 26 of the cases the officers removed their prisoners or increased the guards. In the six other cases the officers used force to save their prisoners. Fifty-five persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of lynch-ers by these officers who did their duty as officers.

So far as the lynching figures are concerned, there is nothing very significant. The number of lynchings in the first six months of this

year, five, is four less than the number in the first half of 1930, when nine persons were lynched. But it is one more than the number in 1929 and is the same as the number for the first half of 1928.

For those who are concerned about the lynching blot, the fact that in 32 instances officers refused to let mobs have their way is encouraging. Officers who have courage and intelligence, or at least one of these very desirable personal qualities, in nearly every case can defeat lynching mobs. The record for the first half of this year indicates the soundness of this conclusion.

Lynchings-1931.

Reports on, Sent Press.

MESSINGER

Valley City N.H.

JUL 7 1931

LYNCHINGS DECREASING

Lynchings in the United States for the first six months of the year, totaled five. According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, this number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of last year; 1 more than the 4 for the same period in 1929, it is the same number for the same period in 1929, 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months in 1927. During the same period in 1922 there were 31 lynchings in the country, and in 1921 there were 31. The tendency is that lynchings, even in the south where it was considered to be quite an event to attend a hanging, are occurring less and less as time goes on.

Reasons for a let-up in the people taking the law in their own hands, are that in too many instances the mob had lynched the wrong man, and that a broader view of its effectiveness as a deterrent to crime has convinced the people that when they themselves allow established law to take its course, more respect is created for the law. Mob law is in itself a violation of the established law, and it cannot be expected that a people will submit to order when mob law rules.

During the first six months of this year, there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched up to June 30, this year, 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape in 3 instances, and murder in 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; and Tennessee, 1.

ASHEVILLE, N.C.

TIMES

JUL 1 1931

Lynching In 1931

THE most encouraging feature of Tuskegee Institute's report on lynching for the first half of 1931 is found in this statement of fact:

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states, 28 in the South.

As to the lynching record itself, five

persons were unlawfully put to death as compared with nine in the first six months of 1930.

In six instances law officers used force to repel mobs; in the 26 others the prisoners were removed or the guarding force was augmented.

Therefore the report, speculating in the field of strong probabilities, states that 55 persons, 10 Whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from illegal death.

As usual, the record makes it clear that lynching is not confined to one race for its victims, nor is one crime alone the provocation.

Of those lynched, one was white and four were colored. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The outstanding moral from this record is that lynching can be prevented if the officers of the law are prepared for emergencies—and determined to maintain the supremacy of the law.

Jan. - June.

3544

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

TIMES

PATERSON, N. J.

News

JUL 22 1931

Jan. - June.

LOS ANGELES, CAL

TIMES

3545

JUL 19 1931

LESS LYNCHING

For the first half of 1931 there were five lynchings in this country, according to statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Institute. This compares favorably with the report of nine lynchings in the first six months of 1930.

What is still more significant is the fact that fifty-five persons were protected from mobs and were given fair trials for the offenses charged against them.

It has been known all along that if the constabulary of any county in which lynchings have occurred had not weakly or sympathetically yielded to mobs, but had done its duty and protected its prisoners, there would have been fewer victims of lynch law, in the South or elsewhere. Public conscience has been aroused in late years, particularly in places where supposed culprits have been found innocent after having been brutally slain by mad posses of men or evidence that would not have convicted the suspect in a court of justice.

Since 1920 there has been a great reduction in the annual number of lynchings. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. In the last decade several southern Governors have come out strongly against the practice and sheriffs have been given to understand that they are expected to do all in their power to prevent the operation of lynch law.

These signs are encouraging. They are an indication that the South is repudiating a vengeful system which at its best is, as Bacon would call it, "a kind of wild justice," and in many cases is the rarest form of injustice.

Montreal, Que. Canada
DAILY STAR

JUL 7 1931

Fewer Lynchings

New York Evening Post: The five lynchings which have occurred in the first half of 1931 are fewer than the average for the period, but the brightest spots in the record are those indicating prevention of lynchings by officers of the law. A total of fifty-five persons, forty-five Negroes and ten whites, was thus saved from the barbarism of mob vengeance. One of the five persons lynched was white and one of the lynchings took place in a Northern State, North Dakota. In the growth of official determination to protect prisoners and see that they are accorded the opportunity for a trial lies the strongest guarantee for the wiping of lynching from our civilization.

JUDGE LYNCH LOSING OUT

Despite news reports indicating direction upon the part of mobs in the first half of 1931, there were actually only five lynchings in that period as compared to nine in the first half of 1930, according to the carefully kept records of Tuskegee Institute.

This is one more than the four lynchings of the first half of 1929; it is the same as the record of January 1 to June 30, 1928; it is less by six than the figure of the first half of 1927. It is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1925 and 1926; it is the same as the record of the early part of 1924; it is ten less than the figure for the comparable period of 1923 and twenty-five less than in the first half of 1922. In the first six months of 1921, 36 men, black and white, were lynched; three dozen lives were unlawfully taken. Up to July 1, this year, only five persons were put to death by mobs. That is an encouraging gain; a reduction of large percentage.

Moreover, this year, there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern states; 28 were in southern or southwestern states. In 26 instances, the threatened prisoners were removed to safer quarters; in six, the forces of the law were put to the necessity of using tear-gas bombs, fire-hose and other repressive measures to subdue an incipient mob. It is estimated that 55 persons were thus saved from the rule of Judge Lynch—and his only verdict is death, without trial.

Of the persons lynched, one was white; four were negroes; two were accused of murder. Mississippi accounted for two; Missouri one; North Dakota, one, and Tennessee, one.

Altogether, it is an encouraging report. Lynching has not yet gone out of fashion, it is apparent, but the law officers as well as the public are becoming more sympathetic with the idea that every accused person, however fiendish his supposed crime, is entitled to a fair trial rather than a summary execution by a mob inflamed by the prejudices of the moment. Only five lynchings in a great nation in six months is a good record; no lynchings in a year would be a better, and is the record which must be established in this country before we can boast to the world of our "inherent" love of law and order.—Enid Daily News.

HOUSTON, TEX
PRESS

Georgia.
Two of these occurred in Mississippi while one each was recorded in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee. Four negroes and one white man were lynched, two of them murderers and three rapists.

Cases in which lynchings were averted totaled 32, two recorded in Texas. Lynching was averted either through force or by moving the intended victims to a place of safety.

The report indicated a record year so far in 1931. Once in 1929 the record was exceeded with four lynchings.

In 1922, which was a year of depression similar to 1931, 30 lynchings were reported in the first six months. 1924 and 1928 equalled the record this year.

JUL 18 1931

FIVE LYNCHED IN U. S. IN 1931, FIGURES SHOW

Four Negroes and One White Included in List

Five persons were lynched in the United States during the first six months of 1931, according to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute and released by the Commission on Interracial Co-operation at Atlanta.

LAW'S RESISTANCE TO THE MOB WILL EVENTUALLY END LYNCHINGS.

While no good citizen will be satisfied until lynching shall have been completely wiped out, there is some consolation in the statistics of the crime for the first six months of this year. As just published by the Tuskegee Institute, the record shows that five lynchings took place in that period in contrast with nine in the corresponding period of last year. The curve, however, has been upward and downward over the last ten or eleven years. Taking the first six months of each of those years we find the number of lynchings as follows: 1922, 30; 1923, 15; 1924, 5; 1925, 9; 1926, 9; 1927, 11; 1928, 5; 1929, 4; 1930, 9; 1931, 5. Of the persons lynched this year—one was white and four were negroes. The crimes charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

Apart from the reduction in the actual number of lynchings carried out, it is satisfactory to note a growing determination on the part of the authorities to thwart blood-thirsty mobs. There were thirty-two cases in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western states, the other twenty-eight in the South. In twenty-six of these cases the mob was balked by spiriting the prisoners away or increasing the guard over them, but in six other cases the mob was defeated by force. As the result of these assertions of the law's authority and strength, ten white and forty-five negroes were saved for trial according to orderly processes.

It is the law's resistance to the mob that will finally wipe out lynching; that, and the spread of education. Too much credit cannot be given to those public-spirited men and women of the South who have been carrying on a brave campaign against this crime the prevalence of which is always cast up against this country by our bitterest foreign critics.

Jul 2 1931

EDITORIAL OPINION

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee Institute reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives, and were held to trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous sheriff. Such cases are now rare. More than one Southern Governor has stiffened the backbones of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around 60 annually. In 1919 there were 83 and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.—Philadelphia Public Ledger

ROANOKE, TENN

LYNCHINGS ARE ABATING

(Atlanta Journal)
It is gratifying to learn from records kept at Tuskegee Institute that in the first six months of this year there were but five lynchings. That is four less than in the same period of 1930. Ten years ago, 1921, there were 36 lynchings in the first six months of that year. Almost every year since the number of mob execu-

guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

GREENSBORO, N. C.

NEWS

JUL 2 1931 5 PERSONS LYNCHED IN FIRST 6 MONTHS

Four Negroes and One White Man Victims of Mob Violence, Report Reveals.

Five lynchings occurred in the United States the first half of this year, as against nine during a similar period in 1930, according to statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute and received here. Of the five who met death at the hands of a mob four were negroes, one white. One lynching occurred in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee, and two in Mississippi, with attempted criminal assault being the charge in three of the cases. Two were charged with murder. In the six months 55 persons were saved from death by lynching, in 32 cases by officers of the law.

SCRANTON, PA

REPUBLICAN

JUL 20 1931

Decline of Lynchings

Encouragement is found in the thought that the figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute show that there were but five mob murders—lynchings—in the United States for the first six months of the present year.

In the corresponding period of 1930 there were nine such outrages. So, improvement is appearing but there is no proof that the localities where such exhibitions of passion run wild are likely to appear, have experienced a change of heart. Perhaps there have been fewer instances where mobs can be incited to frenzy by heinous assaults.

Only once in the last decade have there been fewer lynchings within a half year period.

Lynchings are an inexcusable exhibi-

It has been said with unanswerable logic that barbarism in this form cannot and does not resurge unexpectedly in an aggravated manner.

There is reason for believing, however, that it is experiencing a real decline. In states where such outrages have been tolerated hitherto the authorities are punishing mob leaders wherever caught.

More than that the public mind is being set against lynchings in a way that is having a splendid effect.

Ottawa, Ont. Canada

EVE JOURNAL

JUL 2 1931

Fewer Lynchings

New York Evening Post.
—The five lynchings which have occurred in the first half of 1931 are fewer than the average for the period, but the brightest spots in the record are those indicating prevention of lynchings by officers of the law. A total of fifty-five persons, forty-five Negroes and ten whites, was thus saved from the barbarism of mob vengeance. One of the five persons lynched was white and one of the lynchings took place in a Northern State, North Dakota. In the growth of official determination to protect prisoners and see that they are accorded the opportunity for a trial lies the strongest guarantee for the wiping of lynching from our civilization.

Montreal, Que. Canada

DAILY STAR

JUL 7 1931

Fewer Lynchings

New York Evening Post: The five lynchings which have occurred in the first half of 1931 are fewer than the average for the period, but the brightest spots in the record are those indicating prevention of lynchings by officers of the law. A total of fifty-five persons, forty-five Negroes and ten whites, was thus saved from the barbarism of mob vengeance. One of the five persons lynched was white and one of the lynchings took place in a Northern State, North Dakota. In the growth of official determination to protect prisoners and see that they are accorded the opportunity for a trial lies the strongest guarantee for the wiping of lynching from our civilization.

ROANOKE, VA.

WORLD NEWS

JUL 4 1931

Editorial Comment

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

From the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch.
Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee, releases the lynching record for the first six months of 1931, as

compiled by Tuskegee's department of records and research. It is more than usually interesting, both in its detail and in the inferences to be drawn from it.

To begin with, the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1931 was only 5. That, Dr. Moton finds, is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927; 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922; and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The inference is almost inevitable that the general wave of recklessness and lawlessness that swept over the country, if not the world, for the first few years following the close of the World War was responsible for the shameful records of 1921, 1922 and 1923. It also almost deduces itself that the recession of this wave is responsible, in part, for the reasonably encouraging record of this year—so far.

Dr. Moton also reports that there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States, and 28 in Southern States. In 26 instances, he reports, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, while in 6 force was employed to save the prisoners. Altogether, says Dr. Moton, 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings were perpetrated and the number in each were: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Dr. Moton makes no comment whatever on this record. It is, to repeat, an encouraging record. But the record will never be clean until in every instance the officers of the law do their full duty, which is to protect their prisoners at the risk of their own lives. That would make the record clean, for a mob is always both a fool and a coward. If officers did their full duty, there would be no lynchings.

lynchings-1931

Reports on Sent Press.
LEDGER

Fairfield, Ia

JUL 20 1931
THE LYNCHING RECORD

A department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute has for many years compiled with great care the statistics with regard to lynching in the United States. The figures are out for the first six months of this year showing that there were five lynchings. Of those unlawfully executed four were negroes and one white; three were charged with rape and two with murder. This shows that "the one cause" is not the only one.

The number of lynchings has not changed greatly, for the same period of time, during the past seven years. Before that there were frequently many more, as in the first half of 1921 where there were 36.

One very encouraging thing is the increased effort being made of officers of the law to prevent lynchings. County officers in southern states are to be highly commended for their growing determination to prevent mob violence. This year 55 persons, 45 of whom were negroes, were saved from the hands of mobs by officers who had the courage to perform their duty.

The detailed statistics show that the first six months of this year compare with others as follows:

"It is 4 less than the number, 9, for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number, 4, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, 5, for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number, 11, for the first six months of 1927; and is 4 less than the number, 9, for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number, 5, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922; 31 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented.

In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape; murder 2. The states in which lynching occurred

and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

SUN

Jackson, Tenn

JUL 10 1931

Lynching Record

The South's lynching record for the first six months of 1931 is more encouraging to those who would stamp out the barbarous custom. Tuskegee Institute reports that there have been five lynchings thus far this year. During the first half of 1930, there were nine. In the first six months of 1929, there were four lynchings.

The Tuskegee reports show that the number of lynchings thus far in 1931 is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928, six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western states, and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus, a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

An intensive investigation of the lynchings during 1930 is being made by a South-

Jan. - June

3546

ern commission. All details leading up to the outrages are being uncovered by trained investigators. When we have the full report of that investigation, we may have data on which to base a concerted campaign to eradicate the crime of lynching.

SUN
GREENVILLE, TENN.

JUL 17 1931

LYNCHINGS ARE ABATING
(Atlanta Journal.)

It is gratifying to learn from records kept at Tuskegee institute that in the first six months of this year there were but five lynchings. That is four less than in the same period of 1930. Ten years ago, 1921, there were thirty-six lynchings in the first six months of that year. Almost every year since the number of mob executions has been decreasing until there were only four lynchings in the first half year of 1929.

However, if it had not been for the vigilance and courage of officers of the law there might have been more mob murders in the past six months than the thirty-days in the same period ten years ago, for since Jan. 1 this year there were thirty-two instances in which lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. That fact is highly creditable to the officers in charge of prisoners wanted by the mobs, but it is not encouraging to those who hoped the mob spirit was dying out from the people.

Eventually that spirit will have few friends and mob murders will become as rare as formal duels are today in a region where they were once the order of social life. Lynchings are just plain unpardonable murders and our civilization is to be congratulated that our law officers are effectually saving prisoners from such murders at the hands of savage mobs.

STAR

St. Pierre, La
JUL 9 1931
DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

An encouraging report on lynchings has been sent out by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, showing that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings, or 4 less than the number 9

for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925. The number has steadily decreased since 1921 when there were 36 lynchings.

Much propaganda has been put out by the press against mob law, together with the concerted efforts of many organizations and institutions, and figures prove that it has been effective. Mob rule was at one time a dangerous menace in the smaller communities of this country, and it has become unpopular through public disapproval. The many instances on record of misjudgment and mistake on the part of mobs has done much toward the reduction of lynchings.

During one year not far distant, Florida lead the United States in lynchings. It is pleasing to note that the name of Florida is missing for the first six months of 1931. Mississippi led with 2, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee each had 1, this year. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 negroes, 3 charged with attempted rape, and 2 with murder.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used, making a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negro, who were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Civilization will not tolerate mob rule, which is often proven unjust.

and ruthless. In addition to the lynchings, blood of the victim which is upon the heads of those who participate in these atrocities, whole communities are stirred up for weeks at a time, and much damage is done to the morale of its people, as well as the regular course of law. It is indeed gratifying to learn that we are showing an inclination to allow our duly appointed officers to take the necessary steps to curb crime, and that they are becoming well organized in the prevention of lynchings.

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Civilization will not tolerate mob rule, which is often proven unjust and ruthless. In addition to the blood of the victim which is upon the heads of those who participate in these atrocities, whole communities are stirred up for weeks at a time, and much damage is done to the morale of its people, as well as the regular course of law. It is indeed gratifying to learn that we are showing an inclination to allow our duly appointed officers to take the necessary steps to curb crime, and that they are becoming well organized in the prevention of lynchings, and the rule of the mob.

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Much propaganda has been put out by the press against mob law, well organized in the prevention of lynchings, and the rule of the mob.

NEWS
Lake City - S. C.

JUL 16 1931
Lynchings Decrease.

According to the records compiled at Tuskege Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings.

This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925. The number has steadily decreased since 1921 when there were 36 lynchings.

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Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

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Kingston, S. C. Record
Thursday, July 16, 1931

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There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

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Lynchings - 1931
Reports on Sent Press.

HERALD

Sanford, Fla.

JUL 8 1931

Lynch Record Improves

An improvement in the lynching record is noted for the first six months of 1931, according to information received from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for negroes. During this period there were five lynchings. During the first six months of 1930 there were nine lynchings, four more than this year.

Although the first half of 1929 and 1928 do not show the same relative improvement for this year, nevertheless the tendency over a period of years shows a steady improvement in the lynching record. During the first six months of 1928 there were five lynchings, the same as this year, while in 1929 there were only four, or one less.

But if we go back ten years ago to 1921, we find there were thirty-six cases during the first six months where lynch law ended in deaths. In 1922 there were thirty. In 1923 there were fifteen. In 1924 there were only five, the same as this year. In 1925 and 1926 there were nine each. In 1927 there were eleven. The figures for 1928, 1929, 1930, and 1931 have already been given, and if one examines them all carefully, he will find, though slight fluctuations are noticeable, there has been a steady tendency toward improvement in this record.

There are two reasons why resort to the rope by unlawful mobs is becoming less frequent. In the first place, public opinion has gradually been educated to the point where it no longer approves of such methods of punishment. And in the second place law enforcement officers are taking a stronger position in the defense of prisoners turned over to them for safe-keeping.

During the first six months of this year, there were thirty-two instances in which lynchings might have occurred had they not been prevented by conscientious officers of the law. Twenty-eight of these instances occurred in Southern states.

It is particularly gratifying to Floridians that so far this year it has no lynchings to its discredit.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.

TELEGRAM

JUL 2 1931

The Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE sends its semi-annual report on lynchings and the Telegram is glad to note that the figure is down.

There were five lynchings during the first six months of this year. The records for the previous like periods were nine for 1930, four for 1929; five for 1928; seven for 1927, nine each for 1926 and 1925, five for 1924,

seven for 1923, thirty for 1922 and thirty-six for 1921. North Dakota had one lynching this year, the others occurring in Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee. There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Mob law is losing ground. That is a fine thing for it indicates that our civilization is progressing.

SUN

Clearwater, Fla.

JUL 1 1931

Lynchings

THERE were five lynchings in the United States in the first six months of this year. They took place in the following states: North Dakota, Tennessee, Missouri, Mississippi, two occurring in the last named.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

The surest way to prevent lynchings is to improve the machinery of law enforcement to a point where the public will have confidence in the even-handedness of its justice and its ability to move swiftly and certainly.

Court delay is the friend of the lynching, technicality the sire and inadequate punishment the mother.

Light
Kalamazoo, Mich.

JUL 2 1931

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY—
TEXAS HAS NO LYNCHING TO
MAR GOOD NAME—

The lynching record for the first six months of 1931, as issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, gives the gratifying news that Texas thus far has a clean slate. Not a person, white or colored, has been the victim of mob law. The total was only five, four less than the total a year ago.

But, and here is the shameful commentary on this age, the murder list grows astonishingly. Many more are killed daily; the violent death toll mounts steadily. It is becoming increasingly difficult to punish properly the cold-blooded murderer.

Jan. - June

3547

Giving details of the lynching record, Principal R. R. Morton of the Tuskegee institution says:

"I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1915; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1."

ADA, OKLA.
NEWS

JUL 9 1931

LYNCHING RECORD THIS YEAR

During the first six months of the present year there were five lynchings in the United States. This, with other interesting facts, is carried in a bulletin issued by Tuskegee Institute, which gives comparisons as follows:

"This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than

the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee 1."

Headlight
Pittsburg, Kans.
JUL 2 1931

OFFICERS DID THEIR DUTY.

Statistics on lynchings always emphasize the number of lynchings in a given period and make comparisons with similar periods. But the figures just announced for the first six months of this year by Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute contain the interesting information that there were 32 instances in the half year period in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Five persons have been lynched this year, four being negroes and one a white man. The lynchings occurred in Mississippi, where there were two, and in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee. In three cases the crime of which the victims were accused was attempted rape and in the other two murder.

An interesting feature of the statistics showing that officers of the law proved true to their responsibility and successfully protected persons from mobs is the fact that of the 32 cases, only four were in northern or western states while 28 were in southern states. In 26 of the cases the officers removed their prisoners or increased the guards. In the six other cases the officers used force to save their prisoners. Fifty-five persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of lynch-ers by these officers who did their duty as officers.

So far as the lynching figures are concerned, there is nothing very significant. The number of lynch-

ings in the first six months of this year, five, is four less than the number in the first half of 1930, when nine persons were lynched. But it is one more than the number in 1929 and is the same as the number for the first half of 1928.

For those who are concerned about the lynching blot, the fact that in 32 instances officers refused to let mobs have their way is encouraging. Officers who have courage and intelligence, or at least one of these very desirable personal qualities, in nearly every case can defeat lynching mobs. The record for the first half of this year indicates the soundness of this conclusion.

A. Pierce Fla.
JUL 7 1931

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

An encouraging report on lynchings has been sent out by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, showing that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings, or 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925. The number has steadily decreased since 1921 when there were 36

lynchings.

Much propaganda has been put out by the press against mob law, together with the concerted efforts of many organizations and institutions, and figures prove that it has been effective. Mob rule was at one time a dangerous menace in the smaller communities of this country, and it has become unpopular through public disapproval. The many instances on record of misjudgment and mistake on the part of mobs has done much toward the reduction of lynchings.

During one year not far distant, Florida lead the United States in lynchings. It is pleasing to note that the name of Florida is missing for the first six months of 1931. Mississippi led with 2, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee each had 1, this year. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 negroes, 3 charged with attempted rape, and 2 with murder.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used, making a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negro, who were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Civilization will not tolerate mob rule, which is often proven unjust and ruthless. In addition to the blood of the victim which is upon the heads of those who participate in these atrocities, whole communities are stirred up for weeks at a time, and much damage is done to the morale of its people, as well as the regular course of law. It is indeed gratifying to learn that we are showing an inclination to allow our duly appointed officers

to take the necessary steps to curb crime, and that they are becoming well organized in the prevention of lynchings, and the rule of the mob.

Republican
WATERBURY
CONNECTICUT

JUL 8 1931

Lynchings For Six Months

LYNCHINGS in 1930 showed a sharp increase over the three preceding years. According to the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 21; according to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People there were 25. The difference is due to differing standards of classification. But in 1927 there were 16; in 1928, 11; and in 1929, only 10.

The rise in 1930 was attributed to the hard times, with resulting idleness, poverty and lawlessness. But the record for the first half of this year, as reported by the Tuskegee Institute, was only 5. If the second half of the year makes a showing no worse, the total for the year will be only 10, or the same as that for 1929, the best year. If this should happily be the total, or if better yet, the second half of the year should keep the total below 10, it will be seen that the theory of hard times as a cause of increase in lynching cannot be pushed too far. Yet it is not without some validity for the depression years of 1892, 1908 and 1921 all showed increases in the number of lynchings.

On the whole, lynchings are on the decline, especially when reckoned in relation to population increase, and there is hope that the evil will be wiped out altogether. Especially encouraging in the semi-annual report of Tuskegee Institute is the information that in 32 cases officers of the law prevented lynchings in the first half of this year, saving a total of 55 persons from mob violence. This compares with 40 such instances for the whole of 1930, with the saving of 60 persons from mobs. Perhaps a salutary increase of official courage and responsibility will account for a possible demonstration of defect in the hard times theory.

DALLAS, TEX.

NEWS

JUL 11 1931

What the Exchanges Say

Fewer Lynchings

Philadelphia Public Ledger: Tuskegee Institute reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number

of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives, and were held to trial for their alleged offenses. This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous Sheriff. Such cases are now rare. More than one Southern Governor has stiffened the backbones of local officials

...taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were 83 and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

Lynchings-1931

Report to the Press.
HERALD-TRIBUNE

NEW YORK CITY

JUL 2 1931

Lynchings Drop to Five In First 6 Months of 1931

Tuskegee Institute Reports 32 Cases of Mobs Frustrated

Special to the Herald Tribune

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927; and is four less than for the first six months of 1926 and 1925; it is the same as for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and twenty-eight in Southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes.

JAMESTOWN, O., VINDICATOR
Monday, July 6, 1931

The Lynching Record

The figures concerning lynchings during the first half of the year given out by Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute make an interesting study. In the six months five lynchings occurred, only one of which was in a northern state, North Dakota. The number is four less than for the first six months of last year. In ten years there has been a steady decrease in the number, except seven years ago when the number was the same as this year. The lowering of the number from 36 in 1921 to five this year tells only a part of the story of an aroused public sentiment against mob rule, for so far this year officers of the law prevented lynchings in 32 instances. Of these officers prevented seven times as many lynchings in the southern states as were prevented in northern and western states. Ten white persons and 45 Negroes were saved

from death at the hands of mobs by officers who removed prisoners or increased the number of guards about jails. In six instances force was used, making a show of courage

to discharge duty and let the law take its course.

These reports from Tuskegee department of records and research give the states which have been disgraced by lynchings an opportunity to see themselves as they are seen by the states where law and order reign. In the years the figures have been given out they have proved not the least of the influences that have brought about improved conditions, seen in the fact that lynchings so far this year occurred in only four states, Mississippi having two out of the five reported. That state can look to nearly all others in the South for a fine example to follow.

S. PITTSBURG, TENN., HUSTLER
Thursday, July 2, 1931

LYNCHINGS IN SOUTH FOUR LESS THAN 1930

COUNTING FIRST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee President Points Out That
Officers of Law Prevented Lynchings
In Thirty-Two
Instances.

The lynching record for the first six months of 1931, according to Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., is as follows:

I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1920; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months

of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

MARINETTE WIS EAGLE STAR
THURSDAY JULY 2, 1931.

55 PERSONS SAVED FROM LYNCHING IN FIRST 6 MONTHS; 1931

Robert R. Moton, principal of the famous negro school, Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, sends the Eagle-Star the following informative statistics of lynchings during the first six months of 1930. The data indicates an almost fifty per cent reduction in the number over last year. He writes as follows:

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 1, 1931. Editor Eagle-Star:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1920; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which

officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

FORT DODGE, IA.

MESSANGER-CHRONICLE

JUL 3 - 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama, a school for colored young men and women, keeps a close check on lynchings throughout the country and regularly makes a report on its findings.

For the first six months of this year, the Tuskegee records show there were five lynchings. The institute says of the first six months' report:

"This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921."

No one can read that report without being impressed that the tendency is all in the direction of fewer lynchings. This is especially true when you compare the records of the past few years with those of such years as 1923 and 1922.

An outstanding feature in lessening of the number of lynchings is the work of officers of the law. The Tuskegee Institute reports that during the first six months of this year there were 32 instances in which officers prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. A total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 colored, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

More alertness in this matter on the part of officers indicates a more pronounced public sentiment against lynching, inasmuch as officers, to a considerable extent, reflect public feeling. The trend is gratifying and leads one to hope that the time is not far distant when lynching will be a thing of the past.

JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

MORNING POST

JUL 3 1931

SIX MONTHS LYNCHING RECORD.

Five lynchings have taken place thus far this year, according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute. The fact that this number is four less than in the corresponding period last year presents an encouraging feature. Yet, the situation will not be satisfactory until these evidences of reversion to barbarism cease to be manifest. Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee are the states which have offended in the matter of the substitution of mobs for law. Of the victims four were negroes and one was white.

However, the number of instances in which officers acted to prevent possible lynchings indicates that representatives of the law are coming to realize more fully their responsibility in such matters. This phase appears to contain greater significance than the reduced number of cases in

which mob action was carried to a fatal conclusion. Southern officers often have seemed to offer little opposition to crowds intent on carrying out summary executions. Yet, of the 32 instances in which possible lynching was thwarted, 28 were in the South. Thus, 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved to answer to the law. In six cases, it was necessary to employ force to withstand the would-be lynchers.

Rarely is there a lynching due to causes other than the failure of officers to perform their duty. The neglect may not be chargeable to those in whose custody the prisoner happens to be. It may fall on higher authorities who withhold the necessary assistance. There have been governors who were remiss and military commanders at times have seemed unequal to the emergency. If there has been improvement in that respect, as the record seems to indicate, it is gratifying.

PARIS, KY., NEWS
Friday, July 3, 1931

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

According to the compiled records at Tuskegee Institute, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number of 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number of 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926, and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 23 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Oners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes.

REVIEW

LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST HALF 1931 REVEAL DECLINE

Five lynchings were reported in the United States during the first six months of 1931, according to statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute and announced today. This number was four less than occurred in the first half of 1930.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Mississippi, which had two and one each in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

Of the five persons who met death in this manner one was white and the other four were negroes. The charges against them were three attempted criminal assaults and two murders.

There were 55 persons saved from death at the hands of mobs in the nation for the period under consideration. In 32 cases officers of the law prevented the success of mob attempts.

Of the five persons lynched this year, four were negroes. Offenses charged were; attempted rape, three; murder, two.

There were two lynchings in Mississippi, and one each in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, writes The News as follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 23 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and twenty-eight in Southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

WILKESBARR PA RECORD
JULY 2, 1931

Lynching Is Shown Well Under Control

Lynching is well under control throughout the nation, research department of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Ala., claims. There were five lynchings during the first six months of this year compared with nine lynchings during the first six months of last year and thirty-six lynchings during the same period in 1921. Lynchings during the first six months of other years were: 1929, four; 1928, five; 1927, eleven; 1926 and 1925, nine; 1924, five; 1923, fifteen; 1922, thirty.

Of the five lynched this year, four were negroes. Offenses charged were; attempted rape, three; murder, two.

There were two lynchings in Mississippi, and one each in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

V. J. J. News
Thursday, July 2, 1931

Lynchings First Six Months of This Year

During the first six months there were five lynchings, according to the report sent out from Tuskegee Institute. Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. Ten whites and 45 negroes were saved from lynching by the efforts of the officers of the law. The lynchings occurred as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

HARRIMAN, TENN., RECORD
Thursday, July 2, 1931

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS 1931

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of these instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offense charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

MACON, GA.
NEWS

JUL 1 1931 FIVE LYNCHED DURING 1931 SO FAR

Records compiled by the research department of Tuskegee Institute show that there were five lynchings during the first six months of 1931, it has been announced by Robert R. Moton, principal of the institute. This was four less than the number reported lynched in the first six months of last year and one more than reported for the same period in 1929.

Comparative figures are given in the institute's bulletin for the past 40 years, starting in 1921, when 36

were reported lynched during the first six months.

During the first half of the present year there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Of these 28 were in Southern states and four in Northern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used.

"Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs," it is stated in the bulletin.

One of the persons lynched this year was white and four were Negroes. Three were charged with attempted criminal assault and two with murder.

The states in which lynchings have occurred this year and the number are: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

DETROIT, MICH., FREE PRESS
Monday, July 6, 1931

BATTLE ON LYNCHINGS CONSIDERED SUCCESS

Atlanta, July 5—(U. P.) The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching has issued a statement comparing lynchings during this "depression" year with those of 1922, when a "similar economic condition existed."

"The report from Tuskegee Institute on the record of lynchings for the first half of 1931," the statement said, "brings much encouragement to increasing numbers of southern people who have committed themselves to an unceasing fight against this crime.

"Though five lynchings throughout the United States in this period are a cause for national humiliation, a study of the figures reveals that in 1922 the score reached 30 by the time the year was half over."

TOWN OF UNION N. J. DISPATCH
JULY 2, 1931

UNITED STATES SHOWS DECREASE IN LYNCHING

The number of lynchings which have taken place throughout the United States during the first six months of 1931 was four, against nine lynchings in the first six months of 1930, and 11 in the same period of 1927, according to statistics compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial School, Alabama.

In 32 other attempted lynchings, officers of the law prevented the mob from carrying out its violence. In six of the cases where the mob was frustrated, it was necessary for state troopers or other law enforcement agencies to use armed force to accomplish a rescue.

Of the persons lynched, one was white, and four negroes. The crimes charged against them were, in three cases, attempted rape, in the other two, murder.

Lynchings-1931

Jan. - June

3549

Reports on Sent Press

GASTONIA, N. C.

GAZETTE

TO THE EDITOR

RECORD OF LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS

To The Editor:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine months of 1930; for the first six months of 1929, one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929, six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of the years 1925 and 1926. It is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Pres. Tuskegee Institute
Newberry, S. C. Observer
Tuesday, July 7, 1931

Lynching Record Past Six Months

at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923, 23 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempting rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

CAMBRIDGE, O. JEFFERSON
Friday, July 3, 1931

REPORT ON LYNCHINGS

According to records compiled for the first six months of 1931 by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama, there were five lynchings in the United States. Mississippi had two, Missouri 1, North Dakota 1, and Tennessee 1. Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses were attempted rape, three, murder two.

This number is four less than during the first six months of 1930. The records of the institute show there has been a gradual decrease in lynchings since 1921 and 1922. There were 30 lynchings in the same period in 1922 and 36 in 1921.

During the first six months of this year there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented

lynchings. Of these, four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

WORLD

Delena Ark.

JUL 1 1931

LYNCHING RECORD SHOWS DECREASE FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF PRESENT YEAR

R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, has issued the following statement relative to lynchings in the United States during the first half of 1931: 'Dear Sir:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of

the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented in the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The States in which lynching occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1."

N. Y. City Post

JUL 2 1931

OUR LYNCHING RECORD

The five lynchings which have occurred in the first half of 1931 are fewer than the average for the period, but the brightest spots in the record are those indicating prevention of lynchings by officers of the law. Of these heartening instances of official duty in the face of popular opposition there have been thirty-two, according to the records at Tuskegee, of which four were in Northern or Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States. Force was used to repel the mob in six instances; in the remaining twenty-six the prisoners were removed or the guards increased. A total of fifty-five persons, forty-five Negroes and ten whites, was thus saved from the barbarism of mob vengeance. One of the five persons lynched was white and one of the lynchings took place in a Northern State, North Dakota. In the growth of official determination to protect prisoners and see that they are accorded the opportunity for a trial lies the strongest guarantee for the wiping of lynching from our civilization. But this determination is to some extent a reflection of a better public opinion, both local and general. Sooner or later the horrible injustice of the slaughter of an innocent man or one whose guilt was at least doubtful and the savage lawlessness of the execution of a man whose guilt was plain and whose conviction, therefore, inevitable will impress themselves so deeply that would-be lynchers will constitute a negligible fraction of any community.

Catholic Alliance
WICHITA KANS. BEAON
JUNE 13, 1931

DECLINE IN LYNCHINGS

The authoritative Tuskegee Institute report that there were only ten lynchings in the United States in 1929. While this record is ten lynchings too many it is very encouraging to note that with the number already greatly reduced in the preceding years, the decline still goes on. That's fine.

There was a time when lynch law victims numbered more than 200 in a seventeen in 1925, these numbers representing marked reductions in the number of these tragedies.

There was a time when lynch law victims numbered more than 200 in a single year. Those were rather savage days. They were days when mob spirit flared up with might and committed in the name of justice! outrageous crimes. Those days brought grave reproach upon the country. We had to be ashamed of ourselves. We received many uncomplimentary remarks from European nations. We deserved all that. We had no business to let the mob spirit go unpunished year in and year out. We should have expressed our regrets by making short work of the ring leaders of the lynching parties.

The decline in the number of lynchings are due to two causes. There is a constantly growing sentiment against the outrage. That is perhaps the chief cause. We have made some progress. We no longer take lynchings as part of the game of life—as we used to do. We used to ask, "Why be horrified? Lynchings there must be, like scandals." Fortunately we have changed our opinion. Sentiment against lynchings has reached strength. And backed by this saving sentiment peace officers are showing more and more resistance to mobs. They have the courage now to break up mobs and to arrest the ring leaders.

The decline in the number of lynch

ings is a very gratifying improvement. It represents a worth-while gain. And this gain for civilization furnishes hope that in time lynching may disappear altogether, or at least be so infrequent as to be no longer a national disgrace.

FIVE LYNCHINGS IN U. S. DURING FIRST HALF 1931

There were only five lynchings in the United States during the first six months of this year, according to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research. Three of the five were in the south. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern states. In 1926 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

ANDERSON, IND., HERALD
Thursday, July 2, 1931

Lynchings on Decrease

This nation had five lynchings during the first six months of the present year. This represents an encouraging improvement in comparison with preceding years. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the total of four for the first half of 1929; it is the same as for the corresponding period of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

These figures give strength to the hope that this damnable practice will be erased from the records of American life. It is particularly gratifying to note that Indiana does not again share the disgrace of those states which countenanced lynchings. We came into this class last August through the dastardly action of a mob at Marion and the case is still being dragged through the courts here. It is to be hoped that mob violence will disappear entirely from the annals of history and that Indiana will never again stoop to such atrocity.

TIMES

Cl. Dorado, Kans.

JUL 2 1931

JUDGE LYNCH'S RECORD

There were five lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1931. This is four less than the number for the first six months last year. The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The figures are furnished by the Tuskegee Institute, and make a better showing for the Southern States, where lynchings have usually flourished. The brightest spot in the whole report at this time is that 28 lynchings were prevented in Southern territory. The number of instances in which mobs take the law into their own hands is low, but the country will not be able to avoid a feeling of shame until lynchings are entirely abolished.

TAMPA, FLA.
TRIBUNE

JUL 6 1931

Fewer Lynchings

Dr. Moton, of the Tuskegee Institute, has issued his semi-annual statement of lynchings. The record shows improvement. Florida, we are happy to note, has a clean record for this year.

In the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

TIMES

KANSAS CITY, MO.

JUL 6 1931

The Remedy for Mob Violence.

Records of Tuskegee Institute show that five persons have been lynched in the United States in the first six months of this year, fewer than the average number for such a period. But they reveal something else, of much greater significance. It is that in thirty-two instances, involving fifty-five persons (white and black), rigid performance of duty by sheriffs and other officers of the law prevented mob violence. It is indicated that similar action might have prevented most of the five lynchings that ac-

ually occurred.

Of the thirty-two cases of prevention, twenty-eight were in the South, a heartening example of the growth of public sentiment, reflected in official vigilance, against a disgraceful display of lawlessness in America.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
PUBLIC LEDGER

JUL 5 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous Sheriff. Such cases are now rare. More than one Southern Governor has stiffened the backbones of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on Sent Press
ATHENS, TENN., PO.-ATHENIAN
Thursday, July 2, 1931

FIVE LYNCHINGS PAST SIX MONTHS IN FOUR STATES

Four Negroes, Single White Man Hanged Is Report

Mississippi, Dakota,
Missouri and Tenn.
Form List

According to a report of Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., lynch law during the first six months of 1931 was prevalent in four states, they being Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee. Mississippi led with 2, the other states recording one each.

Comparison Made

This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the six months of 1929; it is 1 more than number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1929; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number of 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

KOKOMO, IND., TRIB.-DISP. Wednesday, July 1, 1931 REPORT ON LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE HEAD GIVES DATA ON ILLEGAL HANGINGS FOR SIX MONTHS' PERIOD.

The bi-annual report of lynchings throughout the country, tabulated by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, in Alabama, indicates that five lynchings took place in the United States in the first six months of 1931. That number is four less than occurred in the same period of a year ago.

According to the report there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; COLUMBIA, TENN., HERALD
Wednesday, July 1, 1931

5 Lynchings So Far, Many Were Stopped, Shown

(Special to The Daily Herald.)

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 1.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings in the United States.

This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the first six months of 1929, and the same as the first six months of 1928.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in the Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus

a total of 55 persons—10 whites and 45 negroes—were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three, and murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; and Tennessee, one.

LOUISVILLE, KY., COUR.-JOUR.
Friday, July 3, 1931

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922, and thirty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. MOTON, Principal,
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial
Institute, Alabama.

ESCANABA, MICH., PRESS
Friday, July 3, 1931

FIVE LYNCHINGS

STATISTICS compiled at the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research disclose that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings as compared to nine in the same period during 1930.

A gradual decline in the num-

ber of lynchings in this country is noted in the report. The first six-month period in 1929 was a slight exception, there being four. Figures for this period in other years were: five in 1928, 11 in 1927, nine in 1926 and 1925, five in 1924, 15 in 1923, 25 in 1922, 36 in 1921.

During the last decade, vigorous educational campaign has been waged by both whites and blacks against the lynching evil. Of deep gratification is the report that during the first half of this year there were 32 instances, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, thereby saving 55 persons from death at the hands of mobs.

Public opinion is being marshalled against any efforts to punish human beings without due process of law, and particularly does it condemn officers of the law who do not take the necessary precautions against the actions of mobs.

One encouraging step in the fight against lynching is the arousing of southern women on

this subject. For decades, the lynching of southern Negroes has been defended on the ground that it was necessary to protect white women from attack. Today, the defenders of lynching will have to find a new argument for representative women of the south are proclaiming in unmistakable terms that they do not need or want any such protection. A statement issued by a group of leading women of the south sometime ago read in part:

"We are profoundly convinced that lynching is not a defense of womanhood or of anything else, but rather a menace to private and public safety, and a deadly blow at our most sacred institutions. Instead of deterring irresponsible and criminal classes, as it is argued, lynching tends inevitably to destroy all respect for law and order. It represents the complete breakdown of government and the triumph of anarchy. It brutalizes the community where it occurs, including the women and children who frequently witness its orgies, and particularly the youth who are usually conspicuous participants."

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., NEWS
Thursday, July 2, 1931

Lynching Record for Six Months

To the Editor of The News
According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929; the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927, and four less than for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than for the first six months of 1922, and thirty-one less than for the first six months of 1921. There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and twenty-eight in southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In six other instances force was used. Thus, ten whites and forty-five Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two. The state in which lynchings occurred were: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala.

Lynching Record For First 6 Months, 1931

The records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research show that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; It is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the

number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

SIDNEY, OHIO, JOURNAL
Wednesday, July 1, 1931

LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1931

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each are as follows; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

KOKOMO, IND., TRIB-DISP.
Wednesday, July 1, 1931

REPORT ON LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE HEAD GIVES DATA ON ILLEGAL HANGINGS FOR SIX MONTHS' PERIOD.

The bi-annual report of lynching throughout the country, tabulated by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, in Alabama, indicates that five lynchings took place in the United States in the first six months of 1931. That number is four less than occurred in the same period of a year ago.

According to the report there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

BIRMINGHAM, NEWS
Thursday, July 2, 1931

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

According to statistics compiled by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., there have been only five lynchings in the first six months of 1931, as compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. This is one more than the number for the first six months of 1929, and is the same as the number for the first six months of 1928. It is six less than the number for the first six months of 1927.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in

Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

SANDERSVILLE, GA., PRESS
Thursday, July 2, 1931

Five Were Lynched In Past Six Months

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records completed at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
TIMES
JUL 1 1931

Lynchings Decline First Six Months

In the first six months of the current year there were five lynchings in the United States according to the

department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala. "This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number, four, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number, 11, for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number, eight, for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; and is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the 26 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

TIMES

JUL 1 1931 Lynching In 1931

THE most encouraging feature of Tuskegee Institute's report on lynching for the first half of 1931 is found in this statement of fact:

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states, 28 in the South.

As to the lynching record itself, five persons were unlawfully put to death as compared with nine in the first six months of 1930.

In six instances law officers used force to repel mobs; in the 26 others

the prisoners were removed or the guarding force was augmented.

Therefore the report, speculating in the field of strong probabilities, states that 55 persons, 10 Whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from illegal death.

As usual, the record makes it clear that lynching is not confined to one race for its victims, nor is one crime alone the provocation.

Of those lynched, one was white and four were colored. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The outstanding moral from this record is that lynching can be prevented if the officers of the law are prepared for emergencies—and determined to maintain the supremacy of

COLUMBIA, TENN.; HERALD
JULY 2, 1931

5 Lynchings So Far, Many Were Stopped, Shown

(Special to The Daily Herald.)
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 1. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings in the United States.

This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the first six months of 1929, and the same as the first six months of 1928.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in the Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons—10 whites and 45 negroes—were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three, and murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one, and Tennessee, one.

Reports on, Sent Press.
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NEWS
Monday, July 6, 1931
Lynching Record

THE SOUTH'S lynching record for the first six months of 1931 is more encouraging to those who would stamp out the barbarous custom. Tuskegee institute reports that there have been five lynchings thus far this year. During the first half of 1930, there were nine. In the first six months of 1929, there were four lynchings.

The Tuskegee reports show that the number of lynchings thus far in 1931 is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western states, and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus, a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

An extensive investigation of the lynchings during 1930 is being made by a Southern commission. All details leading up to the outrages are being uncovered by trained investigators. When we have the full report of that investigation, we may have data on which to base a concerted campaign to eradicate the crime of lynching.

San Antonio Tex.
DUBOIS EXPRESS
Thursday, July 2, 1931
MORE SUCCESSFUL RESISTANCE TO THE MOB

Lynch-murder again declined during the first half of 1931, according to Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's semi-annual survey. Five mob crimes were reported in four States, as compared with nine in the first six months of 1930. Should no relapse occur before December 31, considerable improvement over last year's hideous record, 21 lynchings, will be recorded.

Thus far, Texas is absent from the shameful roll; and two recent developments encourage the hope that this State still will show a clean slate next January 1: In May, the Commission on Interracial Co-operation—with headquarters in Atlanta—bestowed its gold medal for courage in resisting mobs upon two Texas sheriffs. A few days later a Travis County jury found a youth guilty of arson in connection with the Sherman courthouse-burning and sentenced him to two years in prison.

Thus it would appear that the forces of law and order in Texas are asserting themselves with good effect. The moral forces likewise are making themselves felt. The Texas Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching—organized in Dallas last spring—working with similar groups in 10 Southern States, has fostered sentiment condemning mob violence.

Those women not only repudiated lynching as a "protection" to their sex, but denounced the crime as "a greater menace to our homes, our children and our country than any other." Such an "honest, rugged, chivalrous and valorous stand"—as one Southern newspaper characterized it—should help deter the would-be lyncher and encourage resistance to mobs.

Of the five mob crimes so far this year, two occurred in Mississippi—long the first lynching State—one in North Dakota, far removed from Judge Lynch's wonted jurisdiction; and one each in Missouri and Tennessee. However, several other States owe their absence from the list to cour-

ageous, resourceful peace officers who successfully resisted mob attacks.

The survey reveals 32 such instances during the past six months, or more than ordinarily. Altogether, 55 persons—including 10 white prisoners—thus were saved from death at mobs' hands. A conspicuous example of valor was given by Mrs. J. C. Butler, wife of the sheriff at Huntington (Tennessee), who in her husband's absence defied a mob that sought to storm the jail.

Evidently the six months' low record is due more to official vigilance and courage than to any great subsidence of mob spirit. It follows that one highly effective way to reduce the evil would be to recognize and reward duty done in the face of threats. Conversely, official neglect or surrender to the mob should be punished.

NEWBERN, TENN., TENN'N
Thursday, July 2, 1931
LYNCHING RECORDS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1931

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931, there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses

charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

CHAMPAIGN ILL GAZETTE
SUNDAY, JULY 5, 1931.
LYNCHING REPORT

TUSKEGEE, ALA., July 1.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929; the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927, and four less than for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than for the first six months of 1922, and thirty-one less than for the first six months of 1921. There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and twenty-eight in southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In six others force was used. Thus, ten whites and forty-five Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two. The states in which lynchings occurred were: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute
CYNTHIANA, KY., DEMOCRAT
Thursday, July 2, 1931
LYNCHING RECORD FIRST SIX MONTHS 1931

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30

for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

ROGERSVILLE, TENN., HERALD
Thursday, July 2, 1931
FIVE LYNCHINGS FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1931

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Five Lynchings Recorded At Tuskegee During 1931

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 6.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than

the first six months of 1929; it is the same as for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than for the first six months of 1926 and 1925; it is the same as for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and twenty-eight in Southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five colored, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were colored.

BIRMINGHAM ALA. AGE-HERALD JUNE 1, 1931

Four Negroes, One White Victims In First Half Of 1930

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30—Four negroes and one white man were lynched in the United States in the first six months of 1931, according to records compiled by the department of records and research at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute here. The number is four less than the total for the first six months of 1930.

States in which the lynchings occurred are Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one, and Tennessee, one.

ESCANABA MICH PRESS
FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1931.

FIVE LYNCHINGS

STATISTICS compiled at the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research disclose that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings as compared to nine in the same period during 1930.

A gradual decline in the number of lynchings in this country is noted in the report. The first six-month period in 1929 was a slight exception, there being four. Figures for this period in other years were: five in 1928, 11 in 1927, nine in 1926 and 1925, five in 1924, 15 in 1923, 25 in 1922, 36 in 1921.

During the last decade, vigorous educational campaign has been waged by both whites and blacks against the lynching evil. Of deep gratification is the report that during the first half of this year there were 32 instances, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, thereby saving 55 persons from death at the hands of mobs.

Public opinion is being marshalled against any efforts to pun-

ish human beings without due process of law, and particularly does it condemn officers of the law who do not take the necessary precautions against the actions of mobs.

One encouraging step in the fight against lynching is the arousing of southern women on this subject. For decades, the lynching of southern Negroes has been defended on the ground that it was necessary to protect white women from attack. Today, the defenders of lynching will have to find a new argument for representative women of the south are proclaiming in unmistakable terms that they do not need or want any such protection. A statement issued by a group of leading women of the south sometime ago read in part:

"We are profoundly convinced that lynching is not a defense of womanhood or of anything else, but rather a menace to private and public safety, and a deadly blow at our most sacred institutions. Instead of deterring irresponsible and criminal classes, as it is argued, lynching tends inevitably to destroy all respect for law and order. It represents the complete breakdown of government and the triumph of anarchy. It brutalizes the community where it occurs, including the women and children who frequently witness its orgies, and particularly the youth who are usually conspicuous participants."

SHELBYVILLE, TENN., TIMES
Thursday, July 2, 1931

Lynchings First Six Months of 1931

In the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1923; less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynch-

ings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

WILKES-BARRE (Pa.) RECORD
Thursday, July 2, 1931

Lynching Is Shown Well Under Control

Lynching is well under control throughout the nation, research department of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Ala., claims. There were only five lynchings during the first six months of this year compared with nine lynchings during the first six months of last year and thirty-six lynchings during the same period in 1921. Lynchings during the first six months of other years were: 1929, four; 1928, five; 1927, eleven; 1926 and 1925, nine; 1924, five; 1923, fifteen; 1922, thirty.

Of the five lynched this year, four were negroes. Offenses charged were; attempted rape, three; murder, two.

There were two lynchings in Mississippi and one each in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE
Thursday, July 2, 1931

Lynchings Drop to Five In First 6 Months of 1931

Tuskegee Institute Reports 32 Cases of Mobs Frustrated

Special to the Herald Tribune

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than for the first six months of 1926 and 1925; it is the same as for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in

Northern and Western states and twenty-eight in Southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes.

BRISTOL, TENN., HER. COUR.

Friday, July 7, 1931

Lynching Record Improves.

It is doubtful if there has been a six-month period in the fifty or more years that lynching records have been kept that fewer outrages of this kind were committed than during the first six months of 1931. Only five lynchings have occurred thus far this year throughout the United States, whereas mobs have claimed scores of victims during either half of many years in the last few decades.

One only has to go back nine years to 1922, when there was a similar time of business depression, to find that there were thirty lynchings during the first six months of the year. The much better record for the last six months is a matter for congratulation upon the part of all law-abiding people. The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, in a statement just issued, says "the first half of 1931 brings much encouragement to increasing numbers of Southern people who have committed themselves to an unceasing fight" against lynching.

Possibly it is not generally known that there is such an organization of Southern women. At first only Negroes accused of assaulting white women were lynched, but as time passed the mob's murderous activities were extended to include the punishment of lesser crimes and misdemeanors, regardless of race or color of accused persons. And Southern women, knowing that their protection does not now and never did depend upon the lynching mob, and that lynching is a greater menace to society than the crimes or the criminals the mob presumes to punish, have organized to fight mob murder.

The improvement in the lynching record thus far this year encourages the belief that those who are engaged in an effort to stamp out this sinister species of lawlessness are making progress. That forty-nine attempted lynchings were prevented in the last six months shows that the mob spirit is still abroad, but it also shows a strengthening resistance to that spirit on the part of constituted authority. In this strengthening resistance is reflected a growing public sentiment against the lynching mob, and to this growing sentiment no factor or influence is contributing more than the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

MARION ILL POST
THURSDAY JULY 2, 1931

FIVE LYNCHINGS PAST SIX MONTHS

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

BRISTOL, TENN., HER. COUR.
Monday, July 6, 1931

LYNCHING DECREASES IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

ATLANTA, July 5. (AP) — The association of southern women for the prevention of lynching, in a statement issued today says "the first half of 1931 brings much encouragement to increasing numbers of southern people who have committed themselves to an unceasing fight" against lynching.

Only five lynchings occurred throughout the United States during the first six months of 1931, the association pointed out, as compared with 30 for the same period of 1922 "in a similar time of depression."

The statement added that southern newspapers have played a leading part in the campaign against lynching and have supported various officials "who by united action have prevented mob execution of 49 persons within the southern states alone."

TROY TIMES
Thursday, July 2, 1931
Lynching Record for Six Months of 1931.

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.
July 1, 1931.
Editor of The Troy Times:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed

or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one, North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

Very truly yours,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

FT DODGE IOWA MESSG
FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1931.
FEWER LYNCHINGS.

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama, a school for colored young men and women, keeps a close check on lynchings throughout the country and regularly makes a report on its findings.

For the first six months of this year, the Tuskegee records show there were five lynchings. The institute says of the first six months' report:

"This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921."

No one can read that report without being impressed that the tendency is all in the direction of fewer lynchings. This is especially true when you compare the records of the past few years with those of such years as 1923 and 1922.

An outstanding feature in lessening of the number of lynchings is the work of officers of the law. The Tuskegee institute reports that during the first six months of this year there were 32 instances in which officers prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. A total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 colored, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

More alertness in this matter on the part of officers indicates a more pronounced public sentiment against lynching, inasmuch as officers, to a considerable extent, reflect public feeling. The trend is gratifying and

leads one to hope that the time is not far distant when lynching will be a thing of the past.

CAMBRIDGE OHIO JEFF. PRESS
FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1931.

REPORT ON LYNCHINGS

According to records compiled for the first six months of 1931 by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama, there were five lynchings in the United States. Mississippi had two, Missouri 1, North Dakota 1, and Tennessee 1. Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses were attempted rape, three, murder two.

This number is four less than during the first six months of 1930. The records of the institute show there has been a gradual decrease in lynchings since 1921 and 1922. There were 30 lynchings in the same period in 1922 and 36 in 1921.

During the first six months of this year there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

WAYONNE N J TIMES
JULY 2, 1931

LYNCHINGS SO FAR THIS YEAR TOTAL 5

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 1.—Five lynchings occurred in the United States during the first six months of 1931, according to records on file at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Four of those lynched were Negroes, one white.

The number of lynchings has steadily decreased. There were nine in the same period last year, while 36 were reported in the first six months of 1921 and 30 in 1922. According to Robert R. Moton, Tuskegee principal, 55 instances were recorded since last January 1 in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. These involved 10 whites and 45 Negroes.

Bristol, Tenn., News Bulletin
Monday, July 6, 1931

LYNCHING DECREASES IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

ATLANTA, July 5 (AP) — The association of southern women for the prevention of lynching, in a statement issued today says "the

first half of 1931 brings much encouragement to increasing numbers of southern people who have committed themselves to an unceasing fight" against lynching.

Only five lynchings occurred throughout the United States during the first six months of 1931, the association pointed out, as compared with 30 for the same period of 1922 "in a similar time of depression."

The statement added that southern newspapers have played a leading part in the campaign against lynching and have supported various officials "who by united action have prevented mob execution of 49 persons within the southern states alone."

Lakeland Ledger
FLORIDA
DATE JUL 3 1931
THE LYNCHING RECORD

In the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. This was four less than the nine reported for the first six months of 1930, one more than for the same period in 1929, it is the same number reported for this period in 1928, six less than the 11 reported in 1927. The total was far short of the lynchings in 1921 and 1922, when 36 and 30 were reported for the first six months.

The circular issued by the institute says:—

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

No comment is made on the lynchings, the institute merely gathering the data and passing it on in the hope that it is helping to form sentiment against this form of lawlessness. Of the persons lynched one was a white man and the others colored men.

Three were for criminal assault and two for murders. Mississippi furnished two, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee one each.

from the Kansas City Star:

In commending the custom of Tuskegee university of sending out an annual statement of the number of lynchings reported each year the Memphis Commercial-Appeal makes the pertinent suggestion that the annual statement include the number of cases in which lynchings have been prevented. It submits that such reports will be just as efficacious in preventing lynching as the publication of the number of lynchings actually committed.

The Memphis daily is moved to make this suggestion by the recent conviction of a Texas lyncher and his sentence to the penitentiary. Tuskegee included in its annual report the story of the lynching at Sherman in which a negro was done to death and a courthouse burned by a mob of lawless men. Now one of the fourteen men indicted for participating in the lynching and burning has been found guilty by a jury in Austin and the trial of the others will be held speedily.

We agree with the Commercial-Appeal that the wide circulation of the story of this Texas conviction would do as much to discourage lynching as the publication of the story of the Sherman riot did. Probably it would discourage lynching more. For the knowledge that participation in a mob murder promises to lead to the penitentiary is far more impressive than the news that a lynching has occurred in some American state.

MOXVILLE, TENN., JOURNAL
Thursday, July 2, 1931

A Report On Lynchings.

Quite without comment, Robert R. Moton, Principal of Tuskegee, sends out the latest report on lynchings in this country for the first six months of 1931.

As stark and sorrowful as is the record thus put down against our civilization, it is by no means the unrelieved tale of barbarism that earlier stories were wont to tell.

In the six months just passed there have been 32 instances in which the efforts of mobs were circumvented, or in which the mob was defied and worsted by the forces of the law and the horror prevented.

In twenty-six cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented.

In six cases, force was used to protect the threatened men, with four of these occasions of frustrated violence having their scenes laid in the Northern and Western states, and 28 in the South.

Counting all cases, there were 55 people, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, saved from death at the hands of mobs.

With this record comes good reason for hope that a dark chapter of American life is approaching its close.

The time has come when sheriffs, jailers, and military protectors of prisoners accept with heroic devotion the legal duty of defending them from danger.

In many instances not only may it be said that the intended victim was rescued

from illegal and brutish death, but that the mob itself was saved from the shame of its own fury.

Increasing honor is being given the men and now and then a woman, who hold it a duty to protect the prisoners under their charge, and who are fearless in doing it.

Mob barbarity can hardly persist in the face of loyal and honest defiance like this, with the matter further insured by recent law to the effect that a sheriff is held responsible for the safety of his prisoner.

Further figures in the record issued by Dr. Moton report five lynchings as the actual number of those that have occurred between January and June of the present year, two of them in Mississippi, one in Missouri, one in North Dakota, and one in Tennessee. Of the five, one victim was white and four were Negroes.

Dr. Moton enlarges the record with some comparative figures that strengthen its value. He says:

I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings.

This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The matter is not a pleasant one to consider, nor is the study of it an occupation conducive to pride.

But that thought of it is necessary goes without saying, with the growing horror that each new contemplation brings, a believable assurance that our worth while people will not much longer countenance even an occasional brutality of this like.

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE
JULY 2, 1931

Lynchings Drop to Five In First 6 Months of 1931

Tuskegee Institute Reports 32 Cases of Mobs Frustrated

Special to the Herald Tribune

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929;

it is the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than for the first six months of 1926 and 1925; it is the same as for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and twenty-eight in Southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes.

CATAVIA, N. Y., DAILY NEWS
JULY 2, 1931

LYNCHINGS FOR SIX MONTHS.

Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, in Alabama, writes The News as follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two;

Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

BUFFALO, N. Y. EXPRESS
JULY 3, 1931
GROUND FOR HOPE, ANYHOW

Because frequently the statistics on lynching have indicated large reduction of this most deplorable form of lawlessness only to be followed by some particularly terrible example of mob law, some will be inclined to see less significance than otherwise they would in the falling off in lynchings in the first half of 1931 as compared with the corresponding period of 1932. They may even emphasize the fact that the first six months of this year brought one more lynching than did the corresponding period of 1929 and the same number as were recorded in 1924.

But the figures from Tuskegee Institute, it seems to us, deserve to be considered with by no means so much pessimism. Any lynching is too many. Mob law is an expression of society returned to the days of the jungle. There can be no justification of it whatever when it is intended to punish crime, not to prevent the completion of it. Five lynchings, therefore, put a large blot on the first half of 1931. But one may well take hope from the fact that excepting 1929 and 1924 the lynching record so far this year is the least discouraging in a decade.

One might make a more positive statement than that, for it appears that in 32 instances officers of the law prevented lynchings. There can be no better ground for hope that lynching is gradually being put out of this country than the fact that representatives of the law are showing that they have more regard for the law than they have fear of the mob.

BROOKLYN EAGLE
Monday, July 6, 1931

The Tuskegee survey shows five lynchings in the first six months of 1931, but it also shows that in our Southern States twenty-eight lynchings were prevented by official courage and firmness. Dixie isn't wholly incorrigible.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on Sent Press.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., ADVERTISER
JULY 1, 1931

Lynching Record In State Is Clean

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., June 30.—(Special.) During the first six months of 1931 not a single lynching occurred in the State of Alabama, according to records compiled here by the Department of Records and Research.

In the nation there were five lynchings, or four less than the number for the first half of 1930, and they took place in the following states: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; and Tennessee 1. Of the persons lynched four were negroes and one was a white person.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern States. A total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., TIMES
JULY 1, 1931

FIVE LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Only 3 Mobbed In South,
However, 1931 Report
To Date Shows

Only five persons were lynched during the first six months of 1931, three in the South and two in other than southern states, according to a report received by The Daily Times today from Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute at Tuskegee, Ala.

"I find," Principal Moton's letter said, "according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number, nine, for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number, four, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1922; six less than the number, eleven, for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number, nine, for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number, fifteen, for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number, thirty, for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than the number, thirty-six, for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynch-

ings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

JOHNSON CITY, TENN., Staff-News
Wednesday, July 1, 1931

5 Lynchings Occur In First 6 Months

TUSKEGEE, ALA., June 30.—Five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1931, according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute here, and 32 instances where officers of the law prevented lynchings. The persons lynched were 4 negroes and one white; three charged with attempted assault and two with murder. They occurred in four states: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

ANNISTON, ALA., STAFF
JULY 1, 1931

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST HALF OF 1931

The lynching record of the country for the first six months in this year, as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute, is favorable in comparison with the similar period in 1930. During the first half of this year, the Tuskegee figures show, there were five lynchings, which is four less than the number reported in the six-month period of 1930.

Of the five lynchings reported this year thus far, two have occurred in Mississippi, while Missouri, Tennessee and North Dakota must take credit for one each. All the other States, including Alabama, have clean records to date. Some interesting facts are seen in comparing this year's record with those of former years, particularly the decrease in the last decade. In the first six months of 1929, there were four lynchings recorded, one less than this year. In 1928 the number was the same as this year, while in 1927 there were eleven. Nine were reported in the first six months of both 1925 and 1926, while in 1924, the total was also the same as in the present year.

But during the period from 1921 through 1923 the number mounted to startling heights. Fifteen lynchings were reported in the first half of 1923, 30 in the same period in 1922, and 36 in the first six months of 1921.

A bright spot in the report, in addition to the decrease in the number of mob killings, is that relating to the unsuccessful attempts to take prisoners from officers of the law. There were 32 instances in which officers prevented lynchings, and a total of 55 persons were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Lynchings were prevented four times in Northern and Western States and 28 times in Southern States. Of the number saved, 10 were white and 45 were negroes. One white person was lynched and the other four were negroes.

Alabamians in particular should find cause for gratification in the report this year, which is in contrast to that of 1930 when our record of several years without a lynching was marred. Let us hope that it will not be less satisfactory for Alabama when the report is made for the last half of the year.

The fact that officers prevented lynchings in such a large number of instances proves that usually lynchings are not inevitable if forceful means are employed in dealing with mobs. An unorganized crowd of men in most instances can be dispersed by a much smaller group which is disciplined and directed by intelligent leadership.

Officers who have prevented lynchings are to be commended for their courage and resourcefulness and the example that they have set should be an inspiration to others who may be called to face similar situations. An officer has an obligation to protect his prisoner and it is gratifying to know that in a large majority of instances thus far lynching attempts have failed because of the close adherence of those in authority to duty.

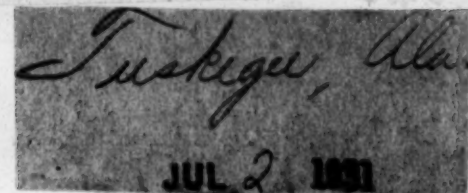
Five were lynched and that is five more than there should have been. But there is encouragement in the fact that 32 attempts failed because of the diligence of officers and that 55 lives were saved in comparison with the five that were taken in illegal penalties for crime.

Lynching Record for First Six Months of 1931 Shows Decrease Of Four as Compared With 1930

7-11-31
The semi-annual release of the lynching record for the first six months of 1931 has been made by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., that there were five lynchings, four less than in the first six months of 1930. It is one more than in 1929, the same number as in 1928, and six less than in 1927. The record showed nine for each of the two years, 1926 and 1925; five in 1924; 15 in 1923; 30 for 1922, and 36 in 1921. One victim was white, four were colored. Three were charged with rape, two with murder. In 35 instances, officers of the law prevented lynchings, four in northern and western, and 28 in southern states. In 26 cases, the prisoners were removed or the guards in-

creased. In 6 other cases, force was used in stopping the mobs. Altogether, 55 persons—10 white, 45 colored—were saved from wouldbe lynchings.

Two lynchings were in Mississippi; one each in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.



THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS DURING THE YEAR OF 1931

Dear Editor:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records completed at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Very truly yours,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

JUL 6 1931

Lynchings

Whether the provocation was less or the citizens of America less hot tempered and blood-thirsty, the number of lynchings during the first six months of 1931 was only five according to the findings of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. This is a reduction of four from the number lynched during the first six months of last year.

In Michigan there were no lynchings, but another northern state—North Dakota — was the scene of one lynching. Mississippi led with two lynchings and Missouri and Tennessee each had one.

The story is only partly told however when those figures are announced—for there were 32 instances where lynchings were only prevented by officers of the law.

Four of those lynched were Negroes and the other was a white.

It is a sign of progress when the law shows itself strong enough to thwart those who would take the law into their own hands and execute persons charged with serious crimes. When the law shows that criminals will be punished swiftly and surely, the incentive to lynch law will be lessened markedly.

GASTONIA, N. C.
GAZETTE

JUL 4 1931

DO NOT GO TO NEW ENGLAND.

(From The Charleston News and Courier.)

Why has negro migration from the South stopped at New York? Why have comparatively few Southern negroes in the last ten years crossed into New England?

In a total of 4,294,614 inhabitants in Massachusetts in 1930 the negroes were only 52,365.

The explanation cannot be climatic. The rigors of winter are, if anything, severer in Chicago and Detroit than in Boston, but that city's number of negroes is four and a half times as great as the number in the whole state of Massachusetts.

Nor can the explanation be political. New England was the birthplace of the abolition movement. The abstract notions of liberty for the colored people were much stronger in Massachusetts than in New York, Ohio and Illinois. Probably the negro as a citizen and voter enjoys greater privileges in New England now than in any other part of the country. Yet the negro population of Massachusetts increases slowly, and in the three states farther north, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, are scarcely any negroes.

JUL 6 1931

LYNCHINGS DECLINE

The first half of 1931 has shown some improvement in law observance, at least.

The semi-annual report of lynchings in the United States, which is always issued promptly on the first of January and first of July by Major Robert R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, shows a decline of four from the first half of 1930.

While only five persons were lynched during the first half of 1931, this does not set a new low record, but is one more than was reported in the first half of 1928 and the same as for the first half of 1928.

Last year nine persons were lynched during the first half of the year, which was the largest number since 1926. The South, which has always suffered the humiliation of having the largest number of lynchings, chiefly with negro victims, shows up better than usual in the record this year.

One of the lynchings was in North Dakota and another in Missouri. The other three were in Tennessee and Mississippi, the latter reporting two. Four of the victims were negroes and one was white.

The most favorable phase of the report for the first half of the year is the number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Many of the lynchings have always been due to cowardly officers or because the officers were in sympathy with the mob instead of upholding the law they represented.

During the first six months of 1931 there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, while in six cases force was used to frustrate the attempts of mobs.

Five lynchings in half a year is a very low figure compared with the old rate at which they took place, but there is no reason what-

ever why mob law should not be outlawed altogether. It is a matter of putting courageous men in office to enforce the law, using good judgment in handling prisoners when feeling runs high and making sure that men guilty of desperate and atrocious crimes are not permitted to escape when their fate is left to the courts.

Confidence in the courts should be a strong factor in eliminating lynch law, although, as a matter of fact, lynchings have always been most frequent in the South where as a rule the same men would have been convicted and most of the guilty ones sentenced to death in due time. The problem so far as the South is concerned is one of vigorous protection of prisoners charged with crimes which ordinarily result in mobs.

Headlight
Pittsburg Kans
JUL 2 1931

OFFICERS DID THEIR DUTY.

Statistics on lynchings always emphasize the number of lynchings in a given period and make comparisons with similar periods. But the figures just announced for the first six months of this year by Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute contain the interesting information that there were 32 instances in the half year period in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Five persons have been lynched this year, four being negroes and one a white man. The lynchings occurred in Mississippi, where there were two, and in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee. In three cases the crime of which the victims were accused was attempted rape and in the other two murder.

An interesting feature of the statistics showing that officers of the law proved true to their responsibility and successfully protected persons from mobs is the fact that of the 32 cases, only four were in northern or western states while 28 were in southern states. In 26 of the cases the officers removed their prisoners or increased the guards. In the six other cases the

officers used force to save their prisoners. Fifty-five persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of lynch-

ers by these officers who did their duty as officers.

So far as the lynching figures are concerned, there is nothing very significant. The number of lynchings in the first six months of this year, five, is four less than the number in the first half of 1930, when nine persons were lynched. But it is one more than the number in 1929 and is the same as the number for the first half of 1928.

For those who are concerned about the lynching blot, the fact that in 32 instances officers refused to let mobs have their way is encouraging. Officers who have courage and intelligence, or at least one of these very desirable personal qualities, in nearly every case can defeat lynching mobs. The record for the first half of this year indicates the soundness of this conclusion.

ST. PAUL, MINN.
DISPATCH

JUL 7 1931

Lynchings and Mobs.

The mid-year lynching figures given out by the Tuskegee Institute show that five persons have met death at the hands of mobs during the first six months of 1931. This number is four less than that for the same period of 1930.

This seems on the face of it to be a good record as other years go, but it must be remembered that if it were not for the vigilance of officers of the law the number of lynchings so far this year might have been 60 instead of five. There were 32 instances since January when mobs attacking jails were successfully resisted or otherwise frustrated. Twenty-eight of these clashes occurred in Southern states. Thus, a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death by mob violence.

Apparently there is still room for the teaching that there is no excuse in morals or law for mob rule; that the state cannot abdicate its sole right to deal with the criminal and to protect society.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on Sent Press.

LOWELL, MASS.

COURIER-CITIZEN

JUL 9-1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

Principal Moton's semi-annual report on lynchings in the United States rather bears out the general belief that last year's increase was not significant of a retrograde movement, but was rather an incidental fluctuation. The number this year was only five, as compared with nine for the first six months of last year—a number that has been exceeded in every year except 1924, 1928 and 1929. The last-named year was the only one that has had fewer lynchings in its first half.

Mississippi retains the unsavory distinction of being in the front rank of mob-ruled states, but at least a tale of only two of these crimes in six months is an improvement on most of its previous records. Of the South as a whole, it may be said that it has never done better, since one of the five lynchings reported was in North Dakota, leaving only four for

the section which is notoriously most infested. Indeed Mississippi is the only one of the far southern states that has not had a clean record so far this year. Missouri and Tennessee having contributed one lynching each. The Missouri tragedy was particularly disgraceful because of the low state of public sentiment revealed, even the clergy having viewed the matter rather complacently.

One encouraging feature is the increased vigilance and courage of the officers of the law. Their intervention thwarted 32 attempts on the lives of accused persons, involving 55 individuals, mostly Negroes, nearly all the cases occurring in the South. The actual lynchings were fewer, but evidently the desire to lynch remains.

While it is perhaps a blot on the nation that a single person should be put to death in the course of a year by mob violence, it seems probable that there is now a close approach to an irreducible minimum. Two of these informal executions were for murder; and it may be hoped that even the most atrocious homicides will be punished by the law eventually, rather than by mobs. Three of this year's lynchings were for attempted rape; and under present conditions in the South, it seems probable that mob rule will persist in that section for some time to

come, when the honor of its women is concerned and when the assailant cannot be punished by law without involving a harrowing publicity for the victim. This may not be right, but something must be allowed for the outraged feelings of chivalrous men. The most that can be expected for a while is that mobs will not act until they are perfectly sure that they have the right man.

It might be said that the slowness and uncertainty of court action is in part responsible for the frequent effort of mobs to take the law into their own hands. Undoubtedly some of the lynchings of the past have been directly traceable to the failure of the law to get results, but this does not seem to be responsible for more than a minute percentage of recent mob crimes. These are largely directed against Negroes, generally those of the poorer class, who have not the money to secure more than the most perfunctory legal defense. The juries may be fair, but at any rate they will not lean backward toward mercy in passing on the case of a Negro who murders a white man. It is extremely doubtful that a single Negro has escaped punishment in the past 10 years for a murder or rape for which he has been brought to trial, except where there has been a doubt of his guilt that should have made even a mob hesitate to put him to death. A large proportion of the lynchings are therefore inexcusable; and the rest are partially justifiable only because of unfortunate racial conditions which perhaps our foreign critics do not fully understand. At the worst the advance is gratifying, when it is remembered that only 10 years ago the normal figure of deaths by mob violence was around 60, and that even this marked a 50 per cent reduction in a score of years, while in 1892 alone there were about as many lynchings as there have been in the past decade.

LEAVENWORTH
KANS.
TIMES

JUL 8 1931

LYNCHINGS GROW LESS.

The semi-annual report of Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, upon lynchings in the United States shows that for the first six months of this year there have been five such crimes in the United States, two in Mississippi, one in Missouri, one in North Dakota and one in

Tennessee.

In former years the lynchings for the first six months of the years have been:

1930	9
1929	4
1928	5
1927	11
1926	9
1925	9

It would appear, therefore, that the tendency in lynchings is downwards. Just after the World war the mob spirit was strong. In 1921 there were 36 lynchings. Since then, however, the number has decreased rapidly until 1925 when it got below 10 and since has, with the exception of one year, kept below that number.

We should like to see the year when the number would be 0, but perhaps that will not come in this generation. It will not come until the indignant law punishes the man who takes the law into his own hands.

NEWS

Camden, Ark.
JUL 3 1931

LYNCHINGS FALL BELOW LAST YEAR

Five Persons Lynched In Last Six Months

The lynching record for the first six months of 1931 is below that of last year, according to the annual report of R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

The report follows in full: "I sent you the following information concerning lynching for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than

the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

EXPRESS

JUL 2 1931

MORE SUCCESSFUL RESISTANCE TO THE MOB

Lynch-murder again declined during the first half of 1931, according to Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's semi-annual survey. Five mob crimes were reported in four States, as compared with nine in the first six months of 1930. Should no relapse occur before December 31, considerable improvement over last year's hideous record, 21 lynchings, will be recorded.

Thus far, Texas is absent from the shameful roll; and two recent developments encourage the hope that this State still will show a clean slate next January 1: In May, the Commission on Interracial Co-operation—with headquarters in Atlanta—bestowed its

gold medal for courage in resisting mobs upon two Texas sheriffs. A few days later a Travis County jury found a youth guilty of arson in connection with the Sherman courthouse-burning and sentenced him to two years in prison.

Thus it would appear that the forces of law and order in Texas are asserting themselves with good effect. The moral forces likewise are making themselves felt. The Texas Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching—organized in Dallas last spring—working with similar groups in 10 Southern States, has fostered sentiment condemning mob violence.

Those women not only repudiated lynching as a "protection" to their sex, but denounced the crime as "a greater menace to our homes, our children and our country than any other." Such an "honest, rugged, chivalrous and valorous stand"—as one Southern newspaper characterized it—should help deter the would-be lyncher and encourage resistance to mobs.

Of the five mob crimes so far this year, two occurred in Mississippi—long the first lynching State—one in North Dakota, far removed from Judge Lynch's wonted jurisdiction; and one each in Missouri and Tennessee. However, several other States owe their absence from the list to courageous, resourceful peace officers who successfully resisted mob attacks.

The survey reveals 32 such instances during the past six months, or more than ordinarily. Altogether, 55 persons—including 10 white prisoners—thus were saved from death at mobs' hands. A conspicuous example of valor was given by Mrs. J. C. Butler, wife of the sheriff at Huntington (Tennessee), who in her husband's absence defied a mob that sought to storm the jail.

Evidently the six months' low record is due more to official vigilance and courage than to any great subsidence of mob spirit. It follows that one highly effective way to reduce the evil would be to recognize and reward duty done in the face of threats. Conversely, official neglect or surrender to the mob should be punished.

Jan. - June.

3554

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

EAGLE

JUL 6 1931

The Tuskegee survey shows five lynchings in the first six months of 1931, but it also shows that in our Southern States twenty-eight lynchings were prevented by official courage and firmness. Dixie isn't wholly incorrigible.

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

JOURNAL

JUL 2 1931

A Report On Lynchings.

Quite without comment, Robert R. Moton, Principal of Tuskegee, sends out the latest report on lynchings in this country for the first six months of 1931.

As stark and sorrowful as is the record thus put down against our civilization, it is by no means the unrelieved tale of barbarism that earlier stories were wont to tell.

In the six months just passed there have been 32 instances in which the efforts of mobs were circumvented, or in which the mob was defied and worsted by the forces of the law and the horror prevented.

In twenty-six cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented.

In six cases, force was used to protect the threatened men, with four of these occasions of frustrated violence having their scenes laid in the Northern and Western states, and 28 in the South.

Counting all cases, there were 55 people, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, saved from death at the hands of mobs.

With this record comes good reason for hope that a dark chapter of American life is approaching its close.

The time has come when sheriffs, jailers, and military protectors of prisoners accept with heroic devotion the legal duty of defending them from danger.

In many instances not only may it be said that the intended victim was rescued from illegal and brutish death, but that the mob itself was saved from the shame of its own fury.

Increasing honor is being given the men, and now and then a woman, who hold it a duty to protect the prisoners under their charge, and who are fearless in doing it.

Mob barbarity can hardly persist in the face of loyal and honest defiance like this, with the matter further insured by recent law to the effect that a sheriff is held responsible for the safety of his prisoner.

Further figures in the record issued by Dr. Moton report five lynchings, as the actual number of those that have occurred between January and June of the present year, two of them in Mississippi, one in Missouri, one in North Dakota, and one in Tennessee. Of the five, one victim was white and four were Negroes.

Dr. Moton enlarges the record with some comparative figures that strengthen its value.

ie. He says:

I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings.

This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The matter is not a pleasant one to consider, nor is the study of it an occupation conducive to pride.

But that thought of it is necessary goes without saying, with the growing horror that each new contemplation brings, a believable assurance that our worth while people will not much longer countenance even an occasional brutality of this like.

DES MOINES, IA.

Tribune

JUL 4 1931

FIVE MEN LYNCHED.

In spite of last year's increase in lynching and of several lynchings which occurred in the first few weeks of this year, the record for the first half of 1931 compares favorably with those for nearly all earlier periods. Only five Americans—one white and four Negroes—have been lynched this year.

That is five too many, of course. But compared with the average of seventy-four a year for the last forty-eight years, it shows a marked improvement.

Moreover, there have been in the last six months thirty-two instances of the prevention of threatened lynchings by prompt and often courageous action by law enforcement officers. Thus fifty-five persons, ten of them white, have been saved from almost certain death at the hands of lawless mobs.

This record appears to indicate that sheriffs and other officials are adopting a more responsible attitude toward the prevention of mob murder. Too often in the past, officials have connived in lynchings—sometimes even participating in them. A rigid attitude against lynchings

shown consistently by local officials, can go far toward abolishing mob murder, which has become a national shame.

DAYTON, O.

JOURNAL

JUL 9 1931

Our Lynching Record Improves

In view of a most inauspicious beginning, the country's lynching record in 1931 is far better than there was reason to believe it would be a few months ago. Only five lynchings were recorded during the first half of the year and these are fewer than the average for the period.

The brightest part of the record is the number of lynchings prevented. Determined mobs gathered in many localities but except in these cases they were either outwitted or frustrated by the forces of law and order. The cases of prevented acts of mob violence number 32, according to the records of Tuskegee Institute.

Of the five lynchings, one took place in a northern state—North Dakota. One of the persons lynched was white. The 32 prevented lynchings saved 55 lives. Southern states contributed 28 to the total number of prevented lynchings. The lives saved were proportionate.

The entire record again suggests that a great reform is still taking place in public attitude toward direct action. The general tendency today is to permit the law to take its course in dealing with an accused person. The resort to force is not as yet eradicated, a fact proved by the number of prevented lynchings, but is not engaged in by so many, it would seem from the defeats mobs have taken.

The barbarism of mob vengeance slowly gives way to the law in the states where lynching formerly was of common occurrence. In the growth of official determination to protect accused persons lies the best guarantee of the wiping out of this blot on American civilization and humanity.

STATES

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

JUL 1 1931

The Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE records of lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1931 are again encouraging. There were only five and but one of them in the far West.

The number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number for the same time in 1929; the same number as in 1928; six less than the number for 1927; four less than the number each for 1926 and 1925; the same as in 1924; ten less than the number for 1923; twenty-five less than for 1922 and thirty-one less than the number for 1921.

Thirty-two instances are reported in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four in Northern and Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States, which shows the ex-

cellent effect public sentiment in this section is having on public officials. In consequence of the activity of the authorities, who either removed prisoners for safe-keeping or resisted attempted violence with force, ten whites and forty-five negroes were protected from death at the hands of mobs.

One of the victims was white, the other four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape 2 and murder 3. Two of the lynchings were in Mississippi, one in Missouri, one in Tennessee and one in North Dakota. Again Louisiana has a clean slate.

If the record in the South during the next six months is as good as in the first, we shall have reason to feel that we are making substantial progress in the attempt to uphold the supremacy of the courts in all cases of crime, regardless of color.

DAYTON, O.

NEWS

JUL 2 1931

THE LYNCHING RECORD

To the Editor of The News:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number, nine, for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number, four, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number, 11, for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number, nine, for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. MOTON, Principal,
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial
Institute.

Tuskegee, Ala.

Lynchings- 1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

July 3, 1931

SANDEN ARE NOW

LYNCHINGS FALL BELOW LAST YEAR

Five Persons Lynched In Last Six Months

The lynching record for the first six months of 1931 is below that of last year, according to the annual report of R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

The report follows in full:

"I sent you the following information concerning lynching for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

July 3, 1931

FT DODGE LA MESSENGER

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama, a school for colored young men and women, keeps a close check on lynchings throughout the country and regularly makes a report on its findings.

For the first six months of this year, the Tuskegee records show there were five lynchings. The institute says of the first six months' report:

"This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921."

No one can read that report without being impressed that the tendency is all in the direction of fewer lynchings. This is especially true when you compare the records of the past few years with those of such years as 1923 and 1922.

An outstanding feature in lessening of the number of lynchings is the work of officers of the law. The Tuskegee Institute reports that during the first six months of this year there were 32 instances in which officers prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. A total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 colored, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

More alertness in this matter on the part of officers indicates a more pronounced public sentiment against lynching, inasmuch as officers, to a considerable extent, reflect public feeling. The trend is gratifying and leads one to hope that the time is not far distant when lynching will be a thing of the past.

RECORD

Clayton, Ala.

JUL 3 1931

Lynchings In U. S. Decrease This Year

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, during the first six months of 1931, there were five lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929, the same number for the first six months of 1928, 6 less than the number for first six months of 1927, and four less than for the years 1926 and 1925, but is the same for the first six months of 1924.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in the Southern States. In the 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3, murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

JUL 6 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The lynching records goes up and down, but it is gratifying to note from the semi-annual report issued by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama that for the first six months of 1931 there were only 5 lynchings in the United States as compared with 9 for the same period in 1930. The 1931 number is one more than for the first six months of 1929, and for the same period in the years back to 1921 the records show the following number of lynchings: 1928—5; 1927—11; 1926—9; 1925—9; 1924—5; 1923—15; 1922—30; 1921—36. Over these six-months' periods for the past ten years the high mark was reached in 1921 and the low in 1929.

During the first six months this year there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, and of these 28 were in Southern states and only four in Northern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Fifty-five persons—10 whites and 45 negroes—were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and 4 were negroes. Offenses charged were, attempted rape 3, murder 2.

There has been no lynching in North Carolina during the first half of this year. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News

Monday, July 6, 1931

Lynching Record

THE SOUTH'S lynching record for the first six months of 1931 is more encouraging to

3555

those who would stamp out the barbarous custom. Tuskegee institute reports that there have been five lynchings thus far this year. During the first half of 1930, there were nine. In the first six months of 1929, there were four lynchings.

The Tuskegee reports show that the number of lynchings thus far in 1931 is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western states, and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus, a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

An extensive investigation of the lynchings during 1930 is being made by a Southern commission. All details leading up to the outrages are being uncovered by trained investigators. When we have the full report of that investigation, we may have data on which to base a concerted campaign to eradicate the crime of lynching.

GREENSBORO, N. C.

RECORD
JUL 6 1931

Fewer Lynchings—A Record.

The record of lynchings compiled by Tuskegee Institute for the first half of the year is reduced from

line to five compared with the first six months of 1930. With one exception—1929—the number is the low record, twice equaled and once surpassed—in 1929, when the number for six months was but four. Which is encouraging. Further encouragement is the fact that the record shows 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings and it is estimated that the lives of 55 persons were thus saved—ten white and 45 negroes. Of the lynching preventions 28 were in southern states. In 26 cases prisoners were removed or the number of guards increased; in six force was used to repel the mobs. Supporting facts of common knowledge—that officers can nearly always prevent lynchings if they exercise common prudence, and without the use of force, although the latter is entirely justified when necessary.

Aside from the lynching record, but relating to the crime mostly used as justification for it, comes a brief statement from Norfolk that indicates the change in attitude in this matter. Norfolk reports that Mrs. Dorothy Skaggs was convicted of perjury and sentenced to five years in prison. Mrs. Skaggs, a white woman, testified that a negro had assaulted her and he was convicted. There was evident doubt and the negro got a new trial and was acquitted. Then the white woman was indicted for perjury and convicted. We're wondering if there was ever another case just like that.

WALTHAM, MASS.
NEWS-TRIBUNE

JUL 6 - 1931

Lynching record.

The United States is still the only country in the world where lynching is carried on without adequate effort to bring the perpetrators to justice. The record has improved over ten year periods, though from year to year the improvement, where there is any, seems small. One encouraging feature of the record for the first six months of the present year, as compiled by Principal Robert R. Moton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, is that in thirty-two instances lynchings were prevented by the law. Of these

twenty-eight were in southern states, within the lynching belt.

There have been five lynchings since January first of the present year, four less than in a similar period last year, one more than in the first six months of 1929 and same number as in the first six months of 1928. Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. Two of the lynchings occurred in Mississippi, one in Missouri, one in Tennessee and one in North Dakota.

NEW YORK
HERALD-TRIBUNE

JUL 2 - 1931

Lynchings Drop to Five In First 6 Months of 1931

Tuskegee Institute Reports 32 Cases of Mobs Frustrated

Special to the Herald Tribune

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute show that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than for the first six months of 1926 and 1925; it is the same as for the first six months of 1924; ten less than for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and twenty-eight in Southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes.

LEDGER

JUL 3 1931

THE LYNCHING RECORD

In the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. This was four less than the nine reported for the first six months of 1930, one more than for the same period in 1929, it is

the same number reported for this period in 1928, six less than the 11 reported in 1927. The total was far short of the lynchings in 1921 and 1922, when 36 and 30 were reported for the first six months.

The circular issued by the institute says:

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

No comment is made on the lynchings, the institute merely gathering the data and passing it on in the hope that it is helping to form sentiment against this form of lawlessness. Of the persons lynched one was a white man and the others colored men. Three were for criminal assault and two for murders. Mississippi furnished two, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee one each.

Courant
Evergreen, Ala.
JUL 2 1931

No Lynchings Reported In Alabama 1931

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months

of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

BELOIT, WIS.

NEWS

JUL 10 1931

FRUSTRATED LYNCHINGS

AFTER the shocking toll of 25 lynchings in the United States during 1930, it is encouraging to have the report from Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee institute, where accurate statistics on this subject are kept, that there were only five lynchings in America during the first six months of this year.

What is most encouraging about Dr. Moton's report is the number of instances in which attempted lynchings were frustrated. There were 32 such instances. In 26, the prisoners were removed to other places for safer keeping or the guards augmented. In six cases the authorities did not hesitate to use such a show of force that the mobs were quelled and cheated of their prey. Thus a total of 55 persons were saved from summary execution to be dealt with by orderly processes of justice.

When the number of frustrated lynchings within a given period outnumbers the total of accomplished mob outrages in a ratio of six to one, it is an indication that community conscience is being aroused to the enormity of lynch law and public authorities, supported by the better element of citizens, are asserting themselves in a way to minimize this national disgrace.

RALEIGH, N. C.

NEWS OBSERVER

JUL 8 1931

FIVE TOO MANY

The first six months of 1931 shows a decrease in the crime of lynching. There were five—two in Mississippi and one each in North Dakota and Missouri. There were 45 persons rescued from mobs.

People are learning more and more to respect the law.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

KANSAS CITY, MO. TIMES
JULY 6, 1931

The Remedy for Mob Violence.

Records of Tuskegee Institute show that five persons have been lynched in the United States in the first six months of this year, fewer than the average number for such a period. But they reveal something else, of much greater significance. It is that in thirty-two instances, involving fifty-five persons (white and black), rigid performance of duty by sheriffs and other officers of the law prevented mob violence. It is indicated that similar action might have prevented most of the five lynchings that actually occurred.

Of the thirty-two cases of prevention, twenty-eight were in the South, a heartening example of the growth of public sentiment, reflected in official vigilance, against a disgraceful display of lawlessness in America.

Commerce, Ga., News
Thursday, July 9, 1931

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1931

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Normal and Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number for the first of 1929.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 instances prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which occurred the lynching and the number in which each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Chicago, Ill., Herald
Friday, July 3, 1931

FIVE LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS 1931

Tuskegee, Ala. July 1—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number 9, for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5, for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number 9, for the first six months of each of the years 1925 and 1926; it is the same as the number 5, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15, for the first six months of 1923, 25 less than the number 30, for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36, for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in northern and western states. And 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and the four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi 2; Missouri 1; North Dakota 1; Tennessee 1.

LYNCHING RECORD FIRST SIX MONTHS

Dear Sir:

I am sending the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in department of Records and Research

Jan. - June

that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1925; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee 1.

Very truly yours,
R. R. Morton,
MESSENGER

JUL 7 1931
Lynchings for the First Six Months of 1931

Writing of the lynching record for the first six months of 1931 R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, has the following to say:

"I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1

more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1."

Robesonian
Lumberton, N.C.
JUL 6 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The lynching records goes up and down, but it is gratifying to note from the semi-annual report issued by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama that for the first six months of 1931 there were only 5 lynchings in the United States as compared with 9 for the same period in 1930. The 1931 number is one more than for the first six months of 1929, and for the same period in the years back to 1921 the records show the following number of lynchings: 1928—5; 1927—11; 1926—9; 1925—9; 1924—5; 1923—15; 1922—30; 1921—36. Over these six-months' periods for the past ten years the high mark was reached in 1921 and the low in 1929.

During the first six months this

year there were 5 instances in which officers of law prevented lynchings, and these 28 were in Southern states and only four in Northern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Fifty-five persons—10 whites and 45 negroes—were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and 4 were negroes. Offenses charged were, attempted rape 3, murder 2.

There has been no lynching in North Carolina during the first half of this year. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

3556

JUL 7 - 1931

Lynchings Decrease

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that there has been some disgraceful taking of life without authority of law in the United States in the past year or so, the nation does seem to be becoming more civilized in respect to withholding its anger against lawbreakers and suspected lawbreakers and allowing the courts to take their course, for according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, in the first six months of 1931 there have been only five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

According to the Tuskegee records, there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 19 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs this year.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state were: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

July 2, 1931

WAXAHACHIE TEX LIGHT

WAXAHACHIE TEX LIGHT

WAXAHACHIE TEX LIGHT

The lynching record for the first six months of 1931, as issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, gives the gratifying news that Texas thus far has a clean slate. Not a person, white or colored, has been the victim of mob law. The total was only five, four less than the total a year ago.

But, and here is the shameful commentary on this age, the murder list grows astonishingly. Many more are killed daily; the violent death toll mounts steadily. It is becoming increasingly difficult to punish properly the cold-blooded murderer.

Giving details of the lynching record, Principal R. R. Morton of the Tuskegee institution says:

"I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that: in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1915; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1."

FRUSTRATED LYNCHINGS

AFTER the shocking toll of 25 lynchings in the United States during 1930, it is encouraging to have the report from Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee institute, where accurate statistics on this subject are kept, that there were only five lynchings in America during the first six months of this year. 7-10-31

What is most encouraging about Dr. Moton's report is the number of instances in which attempted lynchings were frustrated. There were 32 such instances. In 26, the prisoners were removed to other places for safer keeping or the guards augmented. In six cases the authorities did not hesitate to use such a show of force that the mobs were quelled and cheated of their prey. Thus a total of 55 persons were saved from summary execution to be dealt with by orderly processes of justice. Beloit,

When the number of frustrated lynchings within a given period outnumber the total of accomplished mob outrages in a ratio of six to one, it is an indication that community conscience is being aroused to the enormity of lynch-law and public authorities, supported by the better element of citizens, are asserting themselves in a way to minimize this national disgrace.

MEMPHIS, TENN., TENNESSEAN
JULY 3, 1931

Lynching Record.

The progress the nation is making in efforts against mob rule is shown in the lynching record for the first six months of this year as just released from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

There have been five lynchings so far this year, four less than in the first six months of last year, and thirty-one less than the number in the same period of 1921. There has been a decrease almost every year for the past ten years.

There have been thirty-two instances this year where officers of the law have prevented lynchings. Twenty-eight of these instances were in Southern states. In twenty-six of these instances the prisoners were removed or guards augmented, but in six instances the officers used force to protect the prisoners under their care.

A total of fifty-five persons were saved from mobs, ten of them being white.

Tennessee is one of four states in which lynchings have occurred so far this year. It is a record to be ashamed of.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

NEWS

JUL 1 8 1931

MOB MURDERS

Five mob murders, figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute show, occurred in the United States in the first six months of 1931. There were nine in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Only once in the last decade was there a better showing—in 1929, when four lynchings were listed between January 1 and June 30. The peak total in the half year covered by the report came in 1921, when thirty-six persons died at the hands of mobs. Barbarism in this form can, and does, resurge unexpectedly in an aggravated manner, yet there seems to be warrant for believing that the trend downward has become persistent.

Support of such a view may be found in a study of the latest statistics. While five exhibitions of savagery prevailed in all their odium to communities terming themselves civilized, sheriffs and other law enforcement officials prevented violence in thirty-two instances, saving fifty-five individuals, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, from mobs. As long as a single lynching occurs there is, of course, abundant cause to be aroused at the degradation of the procedure; but it is greatly to the credit of our society and its authorized agents that more and more they find themselves capable of keeping jungle passions from a type of slaughter that defies and undermines social institutions of proved merit.

The distressing lynching toll of the first half of 1921 and 1922, when thirty such killings occurred, was ascribed in part to the economic distress then prevailing. There has been no duplication of the record in the present recession, despite a far from satisfactory general crime situation. It is a gratifying sign that the popular conscience is improving in a direction where improvement promises to be most auspicious in its bearings on self-respecting citizenship.

Lynchings - 1931

Jan. - June

3557

Reports on, Sent Press.

Wash. Tribune
MONDAY, JULY 6, 1931

PREVENTION OF MOB MURDERS.

The semi-annual "lynching bulletin" of Tuskegee Normal Institute, a negro educational institution in Alabama, relates that during the first six months of 1931 there were only five lynchings in the United States—one in North Dakota, one in Tennessee, one in Missouri and two in Mississippi. Four of the persons murdered by mobs were negroes. The number of lynchings was 40 per cent less than that for the corresponding period of the preceding year.

The most interesting section of the bulletin is as follows: "There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

This is encouraging information. Officers of the law, especially in the South and as concerns the protection of negroes in their custody, apparently are coming to a new consciousness of the responsibility of their official position and a new conception of their duty to those whom they hold for judgment through due processes of law. Few mobs, however infuriated, will persist in a lynching enterprise if they know that they will have to brave bullets to accomplish their unlawful design. It is one thing to kill a helpless prisoner and quite another thing to be killed in pursuit of that objective.

The six instances in which, according to the Tuskegee report, force was used to protect prisoners from mobs doubtless will be recalled by individuals of mobs that may assemble in the future and have an effect wholesomely chilling to that psychological condition called "mob hysteria."

The courage and resourcefulness of law enforcement agents who removed threatened prisoners beyond the reach of mobs is, too, to be warmly commended. There has been too frequently in the past insistent implication of circumstances that sheriffs and their subordinates weren't interested in saving prisoners and by misfeasance became accessory to mob murder.

ST. LOUIS, MO.
POST DISPATCH

JUL 1 0 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1931.

Figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute for the first six months of this year show a considerable decrease in the number of lynchings. Only five mob murders were reported in that time. This compares as follows with totals for the 10 preceding half-years:

1930.....9	1927.....11	1923.....15
1929.....4	1926.....9	1922.....30
1928.....5	1925.....9	1921.....36
	1924.....8	

It has been commonly observed that lynchings increase in periods of economic distress, being stimulated by idleness and keener competition between the faces for work. Hence a gain for 1931 had been predicted. Comparison with the figures for 1921 and 1922, previous depression years, show that law and order are making an excellent showing over the forces of unrest usually unleashed by hard times.

Even more than in the reduced total, however, a favorable sign for American civilization is found in the number of lynchings prevented. Officers of the law in 32 instances prevented violence. Tuskegee reports, saving 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, from mobs. In all of 1929, only 27 instances occurred in which mobs were turned back. Conscientious sheriffs and police thus must be credited with a large share in this social progress. The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching extends the credit to Southern newspapers which have supported its campaign. It is apparent that the public conscience over the nation is awakening to the necessity for eradicating this evil, and is converting good resolves into tangible records. In a year of such notable progress, the blot of the Maryville outrage looms the blacker on Missouri's name.

Washington, D. C., U. S. Daily
Philadelphia Public Ledger
JUL 5 - 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous Sheriff. Such cases are now rare. More than one Southern Governor has stiffened the backbones of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., EXPRESS
JULY 2, 1931 J9

MORE SUCCESSFUL RESISTANCE TO THE MOB

Lynch-murder again declined during the first half of 1931, according to Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's semi-annual survey. Five mob crimes were reported in four States, as compared with nine in the first six months of 1930. Should no relapse occur before December 31, considerable improvement over last year's hideous record, 21 lynchings, will be recorded.

Thus far, Texas is absent from the shameful roll; and two recent developments encourage the hope that this State still will show a clean slate next January 1: In May, the Commission on Interracial Co-operation—with headquarters in Atlanta—bestowed its gold medal for courage in resisting mobs upon two Texas sheriffs. A few days later a Travis County jury found a youth guilty of arson in connection with the Sherman courthouse-burning and sentenced him to two years in prison.

Thus it would appear that the forces of law and order in Texas are asserting themselves with good effect. The moral forces likewise are making themselves felt. The Texas Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching—organized in Dallas last spring—working with similar groups in 10 Southern States, has fostered sentiment condemning mob violence.

Those women not only repudiated lynching as a "protection" to their sex, but denounced the crime as "a greater menace to our homes, our children and our country than any other." Such an "honest, rugged, chivalrous and valorous stand"—as one Southern newspaper characterized it—should help deter the would-be lyncher and encourage resistance to mobs.

Of the five mob crimes, so far this year, two occurred in Mississippi—long the first lynching State—one in North Dakota, far removed from Judge Lynch's wonted jurisdiction; and one each in Missouri and Tennessee. However, several other States owe their absence from the list to courageous, resourceful peace officers who successfully resisted mob attacks.

The survey reveals 32 such instances

during the past six months, or more highly effective way to reduce the evil than ordinarily. Altogether, 55 persons would be to recognize and reward sons—including 10 white prisoners—duty done in the face of threats, thus were saved from death at mobs' hands. Conversely, official neglect of surrender. A conspicuous example of order to the mob should be punished.

valor was given by Mrs. J. C. Butler, wife of the sheriff at Huntington (Tennessee), who in her husband's absence defied a mob that sought to storm the jail.

Evidently the six months' low record is due more to official vigilance and courage than to any great subsidence of mob spirit. It follows that one

JUL 9 1931

Fewer Lynchings

IN THE FIRST half of this year, five lynchings took place in the United States, reports the Tuskegee Institute, where a record is kept. The number was markedly less than in former similar periods. That is encouraging. But still more encouraging is the record of lynchings prevented. Peace officers in 32 cases, in six cases by force, foiled the efforts of mobs to gain possession of accused men. Until quite recently, sheriffs and policemen rarely made any such effort. When the mob wanted a man usually they got him. The changed sentiment and more civilized condition is due almost wholly to women of the South, who organized to save their states from the disgrace of mob lawlessness. But lynching is not a practice only of the South. One of the five cases reported was in North Dakota. Geography has little power over man's savage passions.

Sparta, Ga., Ishmaelite
Thursday, July 9, 1931

**FIVE WERE LYNCHED
IN PAST SIX MONTHS**

Tuskegee, Ala.—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records completed at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern

states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; and Tennessee, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

**1931 LYNCHING
RECORDS SHOW
GREAT DECLINE**

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 8. — In lynching record for the first six months of 1931, compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research is reported that there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925.

This is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number of fifteen for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1922.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching. Of these four were in Northern and Western states, and twenty-eight in Southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

Dawkinsville, Ga., Dispatch & News
Thursday, July 8, 1931

**Decrease in Lynchings
Shown by Records**

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the

first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926, and 1925; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances where officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of these instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

R. R. Morton, Principal.

**Blakely, Ga.
JUL 2 1931
NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS
ON THE DECREASE**

According to statistics compiled by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., there have been only five lynchings in the first six months of 1931, as compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. This is one more than the number for the first six months of 1929, and is the same as the number for the first six months of 1928. It is six less than the number for the first six months of 1927.

There were 32 instances in which

officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Washington, D. C., U. S. Daily

JUL 1 - 1931

**Five Lynchings During
First Six Months 1931**

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number, 9, for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number, 4, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, 5, for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number, 9, for the first six months of each of the years 1925 and 1926; it is the same as the number, 5, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number, 36, for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in northern and western states, and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

LYNCH RECORD

FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1931

Hersele. Cowan in-
march 1

7-4-31

DR. R. R. MOTON, PRINCIPAL OF

TUSKEGEE SENDS RECORD

OF LYNCHING FOR FIRST
BALTIMORE, MD.
HALF YEAR.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 1.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Research and Records for the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929... it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1923; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

LYNCHERS KILL

5 IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR

One White, Four Colored.
Number Four Less Than That For First 6 Months Of 1930, Says Report From Tuskegee Institute.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 3.—Records compiled in the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute reveal five lynchings in the first six months of 1931.

The number is four less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1923; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each year, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

One White; Four Colored

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1;

Tennessee, 1.

The report is signed by R. R. Moton, Tuskegee Institute principal

FIVE LYNCHED IN 6 MONTHS

Four Less For First Half Of This Year Than For Same Period Last Year
Mississippi Leads

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1923; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

Officers Show Arrests.
There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and twenty-eight in southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

Jan. - June

LYNCHING RECORD

SIX MONTHS!

The Union

Tuskegee, Ala.

In the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 5 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

TUSKEGEE REPORTS FIVE LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST HALF OF 1931

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 1.—(Special to The Birmingham Reporter.)—Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, released today the following letter, showing the lynching record for the first six months of 1931:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1923; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the

first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Lynching Record For First 6 Months of '31

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1923; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the Law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Lynching Record First Six Months

Compiled by Tuskegee Institute Dept. of Records and Research

Tuskegee, Inst., Alabama, July 1, 1931.—It is found that according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. The number is 9 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Lynching Record In State Is Clear

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., June 30.—(Special)—During the first six months of 1931 not a single lynching occurred in the State of Alabama, according to records compiled here by the Department of Records and Research.

In the nation there were five lynchings, or four less than the number for the first half of 1930, and they took place in the following states: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; and Tennessee, 1. Of the persons lynched four

were negroes and one was a white person. There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern States. A total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

5 LYNCHED IN 6 MOS.

SAYS TUSKEGEE REPORT FOR FIRST HALF OF 1931—SOME OMITTED—MANY CASES OF PREVENTION

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 1, 1931.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were colored. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2. Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Standings In The Lynching League

Standings in the Lynching League for the first half of the year 1931 is as follows:

Mississippi	2
Missouri	1
North Dakota	1
Tennessee	1

Total

One of the five was white. Offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2. According to information released by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, this number is four less than the nine lynchings during the first six months of 1930.

It is also one more than the four for the same period in 1929; the same as in 1928; 6 less than in 1927, and four less than the nine in the January-June period of both 1925 and 1926.

COLUMBUS, O. OHIO STATE JOURNAL

JUL 8 1931

LYNCHING RECORD.

Editor Ohio State Journal:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than for the first six months of 1930; one more than for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as for the first six months of 1928; six less than for the first six months of 1927 and four less for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each are: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute.

Tuskegee, Ala.
Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS

JUL 6 1931 Lynching Record

THE SOUTH'S lynching record for the first six months of 1931 is more encouraging to those who would stamp out the barbarous custom. Tuskegee institute reports that there have been five lynchings thus far this year. During the first half of 1930, there were nine. In the first six months of 1929, there were four lynchings.

The Tuskegee reports show that the number of lynchings thus far in 1931 is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first

six months of 1921. There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western states, and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

An extensive investigation of the lynchings during 1930 is being made by a Southern commission. All details leading up to the outrages are being uncovered by trained investigators. When we have the full report of that investigation, we may have data on which to base a concerted campaign to eradicate the crime of lynching.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
TIMES

JUL 1 1931 Lynching In 1931

THE most encouraging feature of Tuskegee Institute's report on lynching for the first half of 1931 is found in this statement of fact:

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states, 28 in the South. As to the lynching record itself, five persons were unlawfully put to death, as compared with nine in the first six months of 1930.

In six instances law officers used force to repel mobs; in the 26 others the prisoners were removed or the guarding force was augmented.

Therefore the report, speculating in the field of strong probabilities, states that 55 persons, 10 Whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from illegal death.

As usual, the record makes it clear that lynching is not confined to one

place for its victims, nor is one crime alone the provocation.

Of those lynched, one was white and four were colored. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The outstanding moral from this record is that lynching can be prevented if the officers of the law are prepared for emergencies—and determined to maintain the supremacy of

FROM
Republican
WATERBURY, CONN.

7/3/31 Lynchings For Six Months

LYNCHINGS in 1930 showed a sharp increase over the three preceding years. According to the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 21; according to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People there were 25. The difference is due to differing standards of classification. But in 1927 there were 16; in 1928, 11; and in 1929, only 10.

The rise in 1930 was attributed to the hard times, with resulting idleness, poverty and lawlessness. But the record for the first half of this year, as reported by the Tuskegee Institute, was only 5. If the second half of the year makes a showing no worse, the total for the year will be only 10, or the same as that for 1929, the best year. If this should happily be the total, or if better yet, the second half of the year should keep the total below 10, it will be seen that the theory of hard times as a cause of increase in lynching cannot be pushed too far. Yet it is not without some validity for the depression years of 1892, 1908 and 1921 all showed increases in the number of lynchings.

On the whole, lynchings are on the decline, especially when reckoned in relation to population increase, and there is hope that the evil will be wiped out altogether. Especially encouraging in the semi-annual report of Tuskegee Institute is the information that in 32 cases officers of the law prevented lynchings in the first half of this year, saving a total of 55 persons from mob violence. This compares with 40 such instances for the whole of 1930, with the saving of 60 persons from mobs. Perhaps a salutary increase of official courage and responsibility will account for a possible demonstration of defect in the hard times theory.

Lynchings-1931
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - June

3567

Five Lynchings During First Six Months 1931

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number, 9, for the first six months of 1930; the number, 4, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, 5, for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number, 9, for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in northern and western states, and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR

Dear Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is four less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number, 9, for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States. In the 6 other instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

FIVE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

Four Less In United States Than In The First Six Months of Last Year.

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—In the first six months of the current year there were five lynchings in the United States according to the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute. "This number," adds the report of the department, "is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number, four, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number, 11, for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number, eight, for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; and is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; 10

less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the 26 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

NASHVILLE, TENN. TENN Friday, July 3, 1931

Lynching Record.

The progress the nation is making in efforts against mob rule is shown in the lynching record for the first six months of this year as just released from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

There have been five lynchings so far this year, four less than in the first six months of last year and thirty-one less than the number in the same period of 1921. There has been a decrease almost every year for the past ten years.

There have been thirty-two instances this year where officers of the law have prevented lynchings. Twenty-eight of these instances were in Southern states. In twenty-six of these instances the prisoners were removed or guards augmented, but in six instances the officers used force to protect the prisoners under their care.

A total of fifty-five persons were saved from mobs, ten of them being white.

Tennessee is one of four states in which lynchings have occurred so far this year. It is a record to be ashamed of.

Washington D.C. U.S. Daily

Charlotte N.C. Observer JUL 2 1931

THE DECLINE IN LYNCHINGS.

Dr. Moton's research bureau at Tuskegee makes favorable report on lynchings the first six months of the year, having been able to put but five on record—two in Mississippi, and one each in Tennessee, North Dakota and Missouri. The fact of significance, however, is that as many as 32 instances occurred when the law prevented lynchings—28 being in Southern

States—to the rescue from mob law of 11 whites and 45 negroes. Circumstance of this kind would indicate the spread of sentiment against lynch law. Last month we have an example of the triumph of the law from the mob of a negro in Union guilty of an aggravated case of assault, a kind particularly provocative of wrath, and in which was developed a fine of duty on part of two sheriffs making the ture and giving safe escort to jail, followed speedy trial, conviction and sentence to chair.

LANSING MICH CAP-NEWS SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1931.

WE'RE JUST A LITTLE BIT BETTER

Despite the general belief that lawlessness is on the increase throughout the country, one bright ray of disproof comes from the statisticians of Tuskegee Institute where records compiled from the nation's misconduct show that lynchings, most vicious of America's badness, are on the decrease.

For the first six months of this year, mobs took the law into their own hands but five times, each incident resulting in a lynching.

This is a decrease of four from the nine lynchings in the first six months of 1930.

However, there is little to boast about. The white race was represented in the lynching victims

SPRINGFIELD, O., NEWS-SUN JOHNSON CITY, TENN., STAFF Sunday, July 5, 1931 JULY 1, 1931 J6

STILL A FIGHT

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute show that there were five lynchings during the first six months of this year. This is four less than were recorded during the same period of last year.

The 1930 record was a bad one. There were more than twice as many such crimes as in 1929. Prior to that time the number was steadily diminishing. The year when lynchings would be cut to the irreducible minimum seemed in prospect. Last year's figures showed that the campaign against them could not be relinquished.

This year's drop was an improvement. The frustration of lynchings in 32 instances by officers of the law, likewise, was in one sense encouraging; but the total of 32 attempted lynchings shows how deeply the evil is rooted.

5 Lynchings Occur In First 6 Months

TUSKEGEE, Ala., June 30.—Five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1931, according to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute here, and 32 instances where officers of the law prevented lynchings. The persons lynched were 4 negroes and one white; three charged with attempted assault and two with murder. They occurred in four states: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

JUL 4 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute has just issued its report on lynchings for the first six months of the current year, and the report is encouraging for a number of reasons. In the first place we have had fewer lynchings during the first six months of this year than we had during the same period last year. Then, too, we are told that out of a total of thirty-two lynchings prevented by officers of the law, twenty-eight of the cases were in these Southern states. The Tuskegee report is sent out by Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee school, and among other things says:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number of nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921. There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites, and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

The most important thing about this report is the fact that it indicates quite clearly that officers of the law can prevent these lynchings when they make up their minds to do it, and really make a stand for the quiet and orderly processes of the law.

When the law is firm, when it coolly holds its own ground with a courageous determination to give the courts a chance to meet their public obligations, reprehensible violence in the form of lynchings can be prevented. The law can and should take care of offenders against the law, and the law will do it when men who are charged with the upholding and enforcement

ment of the law fully meet their sworn obligations. That truth shines impressively in this Tuskegee report on lynchings and prevented lynchings for the first six months of the year 1931.

NORFOLK, VA. VIRGINIAN PILOT

JUL 6 1931

Fewer Lynchings In 1931

Tuskegee Institute's semiannual report on lynchings in the United States, with its listing of five instances in which mob law has prevailed, suggests that the current year will fall more in line with the decreasing number of lynchings during the past ten years than 1930 did. If the same rate holds for the second six months of 1931, the full year will show ten lynchings. That would be ten too many. It would, however, bring the record back to the 1929 total and would be one less than the 1928 total. Should that happen the downward curve of lynchings which has been most pronounced for the past ten years would be fairly regular with the exception of two conspicuously bad years, 1926 and 1930.

To a certain extent, 1926 appears explainable. The lynching increase then was largely in Florida, and that State was undergoing a period of social unrest as a result of the land boom and the floating population it drew. No such explanation is available for 1930. Hypotheses based upon depressed economic conditions have been suggested, but in the light of the greatly improved lynching record for the first six months of this year, all such ideas have lost plausibility. Economic conditions did not improve in the first half of 1931. Yet the number of lynchings sharply decreased.

The uncertainties in these comparisons draws attention once more to the importance of a serious study of lynchings such as has been undertaken by a special committee named by the Inter-racial Commission. That study is now in progress, based in large part upon a minute case history of every lynching in recent years, with experienced sociologists and students of race relations sifting the information in the effort to draw some definite conclusions. Meantime, the record for the past ten years shows sufficient progress to demonstrate the advisability of continuing the steady pressure which has brought about striking improvement in that period.

ERI, PA. DISPATCH HERALD

JUL 6 1931

Lynchings Grow Less

Tuskegee Institute reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared

with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929, there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous sheriff. Such cases are now rare.

More than one southern governor has stiffened the backbone of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

YOUNGSTOWN, O. VINDICATOR

JUL 6 1931

The Lynching Record

The figures concerning lynchings during the first half of the year given out by Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute make an interesting study. In the six months five lynchings occurred, only one of which was in a northern state, North Dakota. The number is four less than for the first six months of last year.

In ten years there has been a steady decrease in the number, except seven years ago when the number was the same as this year. The lowering of the number from 36 in 1921 to five this year tells only a part of the story of an aroused public sentiment against mob rule, for so far this year officers of the law prevented lynchings in 32 instances. Officers prevented seven times as many lynchings in the southern states as were prevented in northern and western states. Ten

white persons and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs by officers who removed prisoners or increased the number of guards about jails. In six instances force was used, making a show of courage to discharge duty and let the law take its course.

These reports from Tuskegee department of records and research give the states which have been disgraced by lynchings an opportunity to see themselves as they are seen by the states where law and order reign. In the years the figures have been given out they have proved not the least of the influences that have brought about improved conditions, seen in the fact that lynchings so far this year occurred in only four states, Mississippi having two out of the five reported. That state can look to nearly all others in the South for a fine example to follow.

Walla Walla (Wn.) Bulletin
July 5, 1931

LYNCHINGS FEWER IN FIRST HALF OF 1931

Lynchings for the first six months of 1931 numbered five, according to records gathered by the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. This compares with nine for the same period in 1930. There were 32 instances of record in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

One of the five lynched in 1931 was white and the others negroes. Mississippi had two and Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee one each.

BELTON TEX. JOURNAL
JULY 9, 1931

ONLY FIVE LYNCHED DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR

Only five persons were lynched in the United States during the first six months of 1931, according to a communication from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. The communication does not state how many should have been lynched.

Lynchings for the first six months of 1931 lacked four of coming up to the first six months of 1930; one more than for the same period in 1929; same as 1928; six less than in 1927 is four less than for 1926 and 1925; same as 1924; ten less than 1923; 25 less than for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than for the first six months of 1921, when 36 acted as the principal characters at necktie parties.

Lynchings for 1931 to date claimed one white and four niggers, for three attempts at rape and two murders, as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1, and Tennessee, 1.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

FLORALA, ALA., NEWS
JULY 9, 1931

Lynching Record For 6 Months, '31

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

NEWS
Garbault, Minn.
JUL 13 1931

Statistics compiled by Tuskegee Institute show that there were five lynchings during the first six months of this year. This is four less than were recorded during the same period of last year.

The 1930 record was a bad one. There were more than twice as many such crimes as in 1929. Prior to that time the number was steadily diminishing. The year when lynchings would be cut to the irreducible minimum seemed in prospect. Last year's figures showed that the campaign against them could not be relinquished.

This year's drop was an improvement. The frustration of lynchings in 32 instances by officers of the law, likewise, was in one sense encouraging; but the total of 32 attempted lynchings shows how deeply the evil is rooted.

HARTFORD (Connecticut) COURANT
Friday, July 3, 1931
THE LYNCHING RECORD

Principal Motion Notes Five in Past Six Months

To the Editor of The Courant:—

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925. It is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924, ten less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-five less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States. In twenty-six of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten white and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offense charged were rape, three; murder, two. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

R. R. MOTON.
Tuskegee, Ala., July 1, 1931.

WINNSBORO, TEX., NEWS
JULY 9, 1931

Lynching Record For The First Six Months of 1931.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the first six months of 1928; six less than the number for first six months of 1927; and is four less than the number for the first months of each of the years 1926, and 1925; it is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was

white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.
July 6, 1931

KANSAS CITY MO TIMES

The Remedy for Mob Violence.

Records of Tuskegee Institute show that five persons have been lynched in the United States in the first six months of this year, fewer than the average number for such a period. But they reveal something else, of much greater significance. It is that in thirty-two instances, involving fifty-five persons (white and black), rigid performance of duty by sheriffs and other officers of the law prevented mob violence. It is indicated that similar action might have prevented most of the five lynchings that actually occurred.

Of the thirty-two cases of prevention, twenty-eight were in the South, a heartening example of the growth of public sentiment, reflected in official vigilance, against a disgraceful display of lawlessness in America.

CHARLOTTE N. C. OR

JUL 2

THE DECLINE IN LYNCHINGS.

Dr. Moton's research bureau at Tuskegee makes its latest report on lynchings the first six months of the year, having been able to put but five on record—two in Mississippi, and one each in Tennessee, North Dakota and Missouri. The fact of significance, however, is that as many as 32 instances occurred when the law prevented lynchings—being in Southern States—to the rescue from mob law of 10 whites and 45 negroes. Circumstance of this kind would indicate the spread of sentiment against lynch law. Last month we had a good example of the triumph of the law in rescue from the mob of a negro in Union County, guilty of an aggravated case of assault, one of a kind particularly provocative of public wrath, and in which was developed a fine sense of duty on part of two sheriffs making the capture and giving safe escort to jail, followed by speedy trial, conviction and sentence to the chair.

KANSAS CITY MO TIMES
JULY 6, 1931

The Remedy for Mob Violence.

Records of Tuskegee Institute show that five persons have been lynched in the United States in the first six months of this year, fewer than the average number for such a period. But they reveal something else, of much greater significance. It is that in thirty-two instances, involving fifty-five persons (white and black), rigid performance of duty by sheriffs and other officers of the law prevented mob violence.

It is indicated that similar action might have prevented most of the five lynchings that actually occurred.

Of the thirty-two cases of prevention, twenty-eight were in the South, a heartening example of the growth of public sentiment, reflected in official vigilance, against a disgraceful display of lawlessness in America.

3568

Jan. - June.

Lynchings Grow Less

Tuskegee Institute reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with nine for the first six months of 1930. But in the corresponding period of 1929 there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous sheriff. Such cases are now rare.

More than one southern governor has stiffened the backbone of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject. There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

July 2, 1931

ARKADELPHIA ARK HERALD

No Lynchings in Ark. in 6 Months

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute President Issues Semi-Annual Statement

The report on lynchings made out for the first six months of 1931, by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, show among other things that Arkansas had no lynchings during the first half of the year. Inasmuch as there were

no lynchings in the state during 1930, this gives Arkansas a clean bill in that respect for 18 months. Principal Moton's report is as follows:

"I am sending you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of each of the years 1927 and 1926; 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
Washington, D.C. U.S. Daily
JUL 9 1931

LYNCHINGS ARE ABATING.

It is gratifying to learn from records kept at Tuskegee Institute that in the first six months of this year there were but five lynchings. That is four less than in the same period of 1930. Ten years ago, 1921, there were 36 lynchings in the first six months of that year. Almost every year since the number of mob executions has been decreasing until there were only four lynchings in the first half year of 1929.

However, if it had not been for the vigilance and courage of officers of the law there might have been more mob murders in the past six months than the 36 in the same period 10 years ago. For since January 1 this year there were 32 instances in which lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. That fact is highly creditable to the officers in charge of prisoners wanted by the mobs, but it is not encouraging to those who hoped the mob spirit was dying out from the people.

Eventually that spirit will have few friends and mob murders will become as rare as formal duels are today in a region where they were once the order of social life. Lynchings are just plain unpardonable murders and our civilization is to be congratulated that our law officers are more effectually saving prisoners from such murders at the hands of savage mobs.

July 2, 1931

SAN ANTONIO TEX EXPRESS

MORE SUCCESSFUL RESISTANCE TO THE MOB

Lynch murder again declined during the first half of 1931, according to Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute's semi-annual survey. Five mob crimes were reported in four States, as compared with nine in the first six months of 1930. Should no relapse occur before December 31, considerable improvement over last year's hideous record, 21 lynchings, will be recorded.

Thus far, Texas is absent from the shameful roll; and two recent developments encourage the hope that this State still will show a clean slate next January 1: In May, the Commission on Interracial Co-operation—with headquarters in Atlanta—bestowed its gold medal for courage in resisting mobs upon two Texas sheriffs. A few days later a Travis County jury found a youth guilty of arson in connection with the Sherman courthouse-burning and sentenced him to two years in prison.

Thus it would appear that the forces of law and order in Texas are asserting themselves with good effect. The moral forces likewise are making themselves felt. The Texas Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching—organized in Dallas last spring—working with similar groups in 10 Southern States, has fostered

sentiment condemning mob violence.

Those women not only repudiated lynching as a "protection" to their sex, but denounced the crime as "a greater menace to our homes, our children and our country than any other." Such an "honest, rugged, chivalrous and valorous stand"—as one Southern newspaper characterized it—should help deter the would-be lyncher and encourage resistance to mobs.

Of the five mob crimes so far this year, two occurred in Mississippi—long the first lynching State—one in North Dakota, far removed from Judge Lynch's wonted jurisdiction; and one each in Missouri and Tennessee. However, several other States owe their absence from the list to courageous, resourceful peace officers who successfully resisted mob attacks.

The survey reveals 32 such instances during the past six months, or more than ordinarily. Altogether, 55 persons—including 10 white prisoners—thus were saved from death at mobs' hands. A conspicuous example of valor was given by Mrs. J. C. Butler, wife of the sheriff at Huntington (Tennessee), who in her husband's absence defied a mob that sought to storm the jail.

Evidently the six months' low record is due more to official vigilance and courage than to any great subsidence of mob spirit. It follows that one highly effective way to reduce the evil would be to recognize and reward duty done in the face of threats. Conversely, official neglect or surrender to the mob should be punished.

AMBRIDGE (Pennsylvania) CITIZEN
Thursday, July 2, 1931

STILL HAVE MOB RULE

According to the Tuskegee Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, probably the world's most famous negro, the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1931 decreased four from last year when nine were lynched.

While the improvement is encouraging the further fact that 55 persons were saved from lynching by officers shows that mob law is far from being wiped out in this country. Of this 55, 10 were whites and 45 negroes. Of the number lynched one was white and four negroes.

All of the lynchings occurred in the South with the exception of one in North Dakota.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on Sent Press

AUBURN, IND., STAR
Thursday, July 16, 1931

MOB MURDERS

Five mob murders, figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute show, occurred in the United States in the first six months of 1931. There were nine in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Only once in the last decade was there a better showing—in 1929, when four lynchings were listed between January 1 and June 30. The peak total in the half year covered by the report came in 1921, when thirty-six persons died at the hands of mobs. Barbarism in this form can, and does, resurge unexpectedly in an aggravated manner, yet there seems to be warrant for believing that the trend downward has become persistent.

Support of such a view may be found in a study of the latest statistics. While five exhibitions of savagery prevailed in all their odium to communities terming themselves civilized, sheriffs and other law enforcement officials prevented violence in thirty-two instances, saving fifty-five individuals, ten whites and forty-five negroes from mobs. As long as a single lynching occurs there is, of course, abundant cause to be aroused at the degradation of the procedure; but it is greatly to the credit of our society and its authorized agents that more and more they find themselves capable of keeping jungle passions from a type of slaughter that defies and undermines social institutions of proved merit.

The distressing lynching toll of the first half of 1921 and 1922, when thirty such killings occurred, was ascribed in part to the economic distress then prevailing. There has been no duplication of the record in the present recession, despite a far from satisfactory general crime situation. It is a gratifying sign that the popular conscience is improving in a direction where improvement promises to be most auspicious in its bearings on self-respecting citizenship.

July 10, 1931

WICHITA, KS. STAR

LYNCHING RECORD

July 1, 1931.

The Lynching Record for the first six months of 1931:—

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled

at Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1923 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charges were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON, Principal

BAYONNE (N.J.) TIMES
JULY 2, 1931

LYNCHINGS SO FAR THIS YEAR TOTAL 5

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 2.—Five lynchings occurred in the United States during the first six months of 1931, according to records on file at Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Four of those lynched were Negroes, one white.

The number of lynchings has steadily decreased. There were nine in the same period last year, while 36 were reported in the first six months of 1921 and 30 in 1922.

Jan. - June

3569

According to Robert R. Moton, Tuskegee principal, 55 instances were recorded since last January 1 in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. These involved 10 whites and 45 Negroes.

MONTESSEN (PARA.) NEWS-CALL
Friday, July 10, 1931

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee Institute reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with 9 for the first 6 months of 1930 when there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous sheriff. Such cases are now rare. More than one southern governor has stiffened the backbones of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject.

There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

TAMPA, FLA. TRIBUNE

101 6

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Dr. Moton of the Tuskegee Institute, has issued his semi-annual statement of lynchings. The record shows improvement. Florida, we are happy to note, has a clean record for this year.

In the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the

first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., NEWS

Monday, July 13, 1931

MOB MURDERS

Five mob murders, figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute show, occurred in the United States in the first six months of 1931. There were nine in the corresponding period of the preceding year. Only once in the last decade was there a better showing—in 1929, when four lynchings were listed between January 1 and June 30. The peak total in the half year covered by the report came in 1921, when thirty-six persons died at the hands of mobs. Barbarism in this form can, and does, resurge unexpectedly in an aggravated manner, yet there seems to be warrant for believing that the trend downward has become persistent.

Support of such a view may be found in a study of the latest statistics. While five exhibitions of savagery prevailed in all their odium to communities terming themselves civilized, sheriffs and other law enforcement officials prevented violence in thirty-two instances, saving fifty-five individuals, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, from mobs. As long as a single lynching occurs there is, of course, abundant cause to be aroused at the degradation of the procedure; but it is greatly to the credit of our

society and its authorized agents that more and more they find themselves capable of keeping jungle passions from a type of slaughter that defies and undermines social institutions of proved merit.

The distressing lynching toll of the first half of 1921 and 1922, when thirty such killings occurred, was ascribed in part to the economic distress then prevailing. There has been no duplication of the record in the present recession, despite a far from satisfactory general crime situation. It is a gratifying sign that the popular conscience is improving in a direction where improvement promises to be most auspicious in its bearings on self-respecting citizenship.

July 4, 1931

TULSA OK. EAGLE

MT. OLIVE (N.C.) TRIBUNE

JULY 3, 1931

FIVE LYNCHINGS IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

Four Less in United States Than in First 6 Months of Last Year

Tuskegee, Ala., June 30.—In the first six months of the current year there were five lynchings in the United States according to the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute. "This number," adds the report, "is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number, four, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number, 11, for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number, eight, for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; and is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 21 less than the 26 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

HARTFORD CONN. COURANT

JULY 3, 1931
THE LYNCHING RECORD

Principal Moton Notes Five in Past Six Months

To the Editor of The Courant:— I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department

of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925. It is the same as the number for the first six months of 1924, ten less than the number for the first six months of 1923, twenty-five less than the number for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States. In twenty-six of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten white and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offense charged were rape, three; murder, two. The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

R. R. MOTON.

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1, 1931.

July 3, 1931

INDEPENDENCE KS REPRT OUR LYNCHING RECORD

According to records kept by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama, one of the nation's greatest schools for the training of colored young men and women, the lynching habit is materially decreasing.

While there were only five lynchings for the first six months of this year, four less than 1930 for the same period, it is one more than for a like period in 1929.

It is the same number as the same period for 1928, but six less than for the same period for 1927. Very little progress is shown in these figures, but when you go back a few years there is room for encouragement. There were 30 lynchings for the first six months of 1922 and 36 for 1921.

The report indicates there were 32 instances in the past six months where lynchings were averted by timely actions of law enforcement officers.

Of the five lynchings so far this year, four were colored and one white. The states where the lynchings took place were, Mississippi 2, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee one each.

LAKELAND (Fla.) LEDGER

Friday, July 3, 1931

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Of the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. This was four less than

the nine reported for the first six months of 1930, one more than for the same period in 1929, it is the same number reported for this period in 1928, six less than the 11 reported in 1927. The total was far short of the lynchings in 1921 and 1922, when 36 and 30 were reported for the first six months.

The circular issued by the institute says:

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

No comment is made on the lynchings, the institute merely gathering the data and passing it on in the hope that it is helping to form sentiment against this form of lawlessness. Of the persons lynched one was a white man and the others colored men. Three were for criminal assault and two for murders. Mississippi furnished two, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee one each.

FREEPORT NAASAU FLA. (1) REVD

Monday, July 6, 1931

LYNCHINGS DECLINE

The first half of 1931 has shown some improvement in law observance, at least.

The semi-annual report of lynchings in the United States, which is always issued promptly on the first of January and first of July by Major Robert R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, shows a decline of four from the first half of 1930.

While only five persons were lynched during the first half of 1931, this does not set a new low record, but is one more than was reported in the first half of 1929 and the same as for the first half of 1928.

Last year nine persons were lynched during the first half of the year, which was the largest number since 1926. The South,

which has always suffered the humiliation of having the largest number of lynchings, chiefly with negro victims, shows up better than usual in the record this year.

One of the lynchings was in North Dakota and another in Missouri. The other three were in Tennessee and Mississippi, the latter reporting two. Four of the victims were negroes and one was white.

The most favorable phase of the report for the first half of the year is the number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Many of the lynchings

have always been due to cowardly officers or because the officers were in sympathy with the mob instead of upholding the law they represented.

During the first six months of 1931 there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, while in six cases force was used to frustrate the attempts of mobs.

Five lynchings in half a year is a very low figure compared with the old rate at which they took place, but there is no reason whatever why mob law should not be outlawed altogether. It is a matter of putting courageous men in office to enforce the law, using good judgment in handling prisoners when feeling runs high and making sure that men guilty of desperate and atrocious crimes are not permitted to escape when their fate is left to the courts.

Confidence in the courts should be a strong factor in eliminating lynch law, although, as a matter of fact, lynchings have always been most frequent in the South where as a rule the same men would have been convicted and most of the guilty ones sentenced to death in due time. The problem so far as the South is concerned is one of vigorous protection of prisoners charged with crimes which ordinarily result in mobs.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

PINE BLUFF, ARK.
COMMERCIAL GRAPHIC

JUL 2 1931

FIVE LYNCHINGS IN
LAST SIX MONTHSRecords of Tuskegee Institute
Show That Number of Less
Than For First Half of '30

According to the records of the statistical department of the Tuskegee Institute there were five lynchings during the first six months of 1931.

This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930, one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929 and the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in the northern and western states and 28 were in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three, and murder, two.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

PASSAIC, N. J.
NEWS

JUL 2 1931

Lynching Record for the First Six
Months of 1931

Editor Daily News:—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as

the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-six months of 1931, according to one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

There were thirty-two instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and twenty-eight in Southern States. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. Of the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, three.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

R. R. MORTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala., July 1.
UNION CITY, N. J.
HUDSON DISPATCH

JUL 2 1931

UNITED STATES SHOWS
DECREASE IN LYNCHING

The number of lynchings which have taken place throughout the United States during the first six months of 1931 was four, against nine lynchings in the first six months of 1930, and 11 in the same period of 1927, according to statistics compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial School, Alabama.

In 32 other attempted lynchings, officers of the law prevented the mob from carrying out its violence. In six of the cases where the mob was frustrated, it was necessary for state troopers or other law enforcement agencies to use armed force to accomplish a rescue.

Of the persons lynched, one was white, and four negroes. The crimes charged against them were, in three cases, attempted rape, in the other two, murder.

REVIEW

LYNCHINGS DURING FIRST
HALF 1931 REVEAL DECLINES

Five lynchings were reported in the United States during the first six months of 1931, according to statistics compiled by Tuskegee institute and announced today. This number was four less than occurred in the first half of 1930.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were Mississippi, which had two and one each in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

Of the five persons who met death in this manner one was white and the other four were negroes. The charges against them were three attempted criminal assaults and two murders.

There were 55 persons saved from death at the hands of mobs in the nation for the period under consideration. In 32 cases officers of the law prevented the success of mob attempts.

VERNON, TEX.
VERNON DAILY RECORD
JUL 2 1931Makin' for Fewer
Lynchings.

The report on lynchings for the first six months of 1931 is particularly encouraging. Although it shows that five persons died by mob violence in the United States during the first half of the year, only four less than the number killed in the same period of 1930 and one more than was killed in the corresponding period of 1929, it also shows that there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Of these, 28 were in Southern States where sentiment is thought to be most propitious to the mob method of meting out sudden justice to those who commit particularly atrocious crimes.

This is heartening indeed. It promises to put an end to lynching. The mob spirit is a cowardly spirit and

it has been quick to make its appearance in the past chiefly because it was believed that peace officers would not make serious efforts to defy the mob with which they frequently were in sympathy.

Once the public is taught to believe that officers will resist vigorously all efforts of mob to take prisoners away from them, the mob spirit will not break out so frequently.

Progress has been made during recent months. All of us have read of more instances in which mobs were thwarted than in which they were successful.

When officers of the law are determined to enforce the law mob action naturally is abated. It can be further abated by speedy action of our courts so as to command the respect of the people.

RECORDS SHOW LYNCHING
IS ON THE DECREASE

Prof. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, writes the following, which gives the lynching record of the first six months of 1931.

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of each of year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which

officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the grounds augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus, a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1, Tennessee, 1.

BRYAN, TEX.
EAGLE

JUL 1 1931

Five Lynchings
Are Recorded in
First Half 1931

Lynchings did not gain in number, as compared to former periods, during the first six months of 1931 according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute. Five lynchings were recorded the first six months of this year. This was four less than the number for the first six months of 1930.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 were in southern states. A total of 55 persons, ten whites and 45 negroes, were saved from mobs.

Of the number lynched one was white and four negroes. The lynchings occurred in Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

JUL 8 1931

Lynchings at the Half-Way Mark.

The record of lynchings for the first half of 1931 shows only five victims of mob violence in the United States and there seems to be more than a fair likelihood, therefore, that the 50-year low mark established in 1929 may be equalled or excelled this year. The showing up to July 1 would be considered remarkable in any year, but in a period of depression it must be regarded as particularly so, for a study of lynchings over half a century suggests some definite relationship between hard times and the frequency of this type of crime. Of especial interest is the report from Tuskegee that in the six months just passed 32 lynchings have been prevented by officers of the law, with southern states frustrating the would-be killers 28 times and northern and western states thwarting them in the remaining cases. In six instances these officers used force to keep the mob at bay, and in the other attempts at lynching, prisoners were removed or the guards increased to attain the same ends.

To us the record of official resistance against mob savagery seems more important than the record of lynchings itself. No doubt there will always be would-be lynchers, but so long as there are officers of the law with the courage and will to oppose them they can hardly be expected to succeed in their cowardly conspiracies. That there is a steadily increasing number of officers who have that courage and will, and who are not afraid to exercise their authority in defiance of the pack, is indicated by the records thus far available for 1931. There has been a stiffening of the official spine throughout the country, and it is a development which can be traced in a very large degree, to a public conscience which has been thoroughly aroused against the brutality and barbarism of a type of crime which has been hideously identified with this country for years.

NORFOLK, VA.
LEDGER DISPATCH

JUL 2 1931

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee, releases the lynching record for the first six months of 1931, as compiled by Tuskegee's department of records and research. It is more than usually interesting, both in its detail and in the inferences to be drawn from it.

To begin with, the number of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of 1931 was only 5. That, Dr. Moton finds, is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927; 4 less than the number 9 for

the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922; and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

The inference is almost inevitable that the general wave of recklessness and lawlessness that swept over the country, if not the world, for the first few years following the close of the World War was responsible for the shameful records of 1921, 1922 and 1923. It also almost deduces itself that the recession of this wave is responsible, in part, for the reasonably encouraging record of this year—so far.

Dr. Moton also reports that there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western states, and 28 in Southern states. In 26 instances, he reports, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, while in 6 force was employed to save the prisoners. Altogether, says Dr. Moton, 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings were perpetrated and the number in each were: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1. Dr. Moton makes no comment whatever on this record. It is, to repeat, an encouraging record. But the record will never be clean until in every instance the officers of the law do their full duty, which is to protect their prisoners at the risk of their own lives. That would make the record clean, for a mob is always both a fool and a coward. If officers did their full duty, there would be no lynchings.

NASHVILLE, TENN.
TENNESSEAN

JUL 8 1931

Lynching Record.

The progress the nation is making in efforts against mob rule is shown in the lynching record for the first six months of this year as just released from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

There have been five lynchings so far this year, four less than in the first six months of last year, and thirty-one less than the number in the same period of 1921. There has been a decrease almost every year for the past ten years.

There have been thirty-two instances this year where officers of the law have prevented lynchings. Twenty-eight of these instances were in Southern states. In twenty-six of these instances the prisoners were removed or guards augmented, but in six instances the officers used force to protect the prisoners under their care.

A total of fifty-five persons were saved from mobs, ten of them being white.

Tennessee is one of four states in which lynchings have occurred so far this year. It is a record to be ashamed of.

REPORTER
INDEPENDENCE, KANS.

JUL 8 1931

OUR LYNCHING RECORD

According to records kept by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Alabama, one of the nation's greatest schools for the training of colored young men and women, the lynching habit is materially decreasing.

While there were only five lynchings for the first six months of this year, four less than 1930 for the same period, it is one more than for a like period in 1929.

It is the same number as the same period for 1928, but six less than for the same period for 1927. Very little progress is shown in these figures, but when you go back a few years there is room for encouragement. There were 30 lynchings for the first six months of 1922 and 36 for 1921.

The report indicates there were 32 instances in the past six months where lynchings were averted by timely actions of law enforcement officers.

Of the five lynchings so far this year, four were colored and one white. The states where the lynchings took place were, Mississippi 2, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee one each.

SUN

Clearwater, Fla.
JUL 1 1931

Lynchings

THERE were five lynchings in the United States in the first six months of this year. They took place in the following states: North Dakota, Tennessee, Missouri, Mississippi, two occurring in the last named.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

The surest way to prevent lynchings is to improve the machinery of law enforcement to a point where the public will have confidence in the even-handedness of its justice and its ability to move swiftly and certainly.

Court delay is the friend of the lynching, technicality the sire and inadequate punishment the mother.

LYNCHINGS ARE ABATING.

It is gratifying to learn from records kept at Tuskegee Institute that in the first six months of this year there were but five lynchings. That is four less than in the same period of 1930—ten years ago, 1921, there were 36 lynchings in the first six months of that year. Almost every year since the number of mob executions has been decreasing until there were only four lynchings in the first half year of 1929.

However, if it had not been for the vigilance and courage of officers of the law there might have been more mob murders in the past six months than the 36 in the same period 10 years ago, for since January 1 this year there were 32 instances in which lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. That fact is highly creditable to the officers in charge of prisoners wanted by the mobs, but it is not encouraging to those who hoped the mob spirit was dying out from the people.

Eventually that spirit will have few friends and mob murders will become as rare as formal duels are today in a region where they were once the order of social life. Lynchings are just plain unpardonable murders and our civilization is to be congratulated that our law officers are more effectually saving prisoners from such murders at the hands of savage mobs.

Lynchings-1931
Reports on, Sent Press.

JACKSON, TENN., SUN
Lynch Record JULY 10, 1931

The South's lynching record for the first six months of 1931 is more encouraging to those who would stamp out the barbarous custom. Tuskegee Institute reports that there have been five lynchings thus far this year. During the first half of 1930, there were nine. In the first six months of 1929, there were four lynchings.

The Tuskegee reports show that the number of lynchings thus far in 1931 is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western states, and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus, a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

An intensive investigation of the lynchings during 1930 is being made by a Southern commission. All details leading up to the outrages are being uncovered by trained investigators. When we have the full report of that investigation, we may have data on which to base a concerted campaign to eradicate the crime of lynching.

UNION CITY, TENN., COM'CL
Friday, July 10, 1931

Lynching Record For The First Six Months of 1931

I send you the following information concerning lynching for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi 2, Missouri 1, North Dakota 1; Tennessee 1.

Very Truly yours,

R. R. MORTON,
Tuskegee Institute.

CORBIN, KY., TIMES-TRIBUNE
JULY 3, 1931 J14

The Lynching record for the first six months of 1931.
Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, that in the first six months of 1931, there were five lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

July 7, 1931

DUBUQUE IA TRIBUNE LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1931

Editor:—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number

5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1921; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Very truly yours, R. R. Waton,
Principal.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE,
Alabama.

JACKSON, TENN., SUN
Friday, July 10, 1931

ynching Record

The South's lynching record for the first six months of 1931 is more encouraging to those who would stamp out the barbarous custom. Tuskegee Institute reports that there have been five lynchings thus far this year. During the first half of 1930, there were nine. In the first six months of 1929, there were four lynchings.

The Tuskegee reports show that the number of lynchings thus far in 1931 is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927, and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, four were in Northern and Western states,

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and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented. In the six other instances, force was used. Thus, a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, one was white and four were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

An intensive investigation of the lynchings during 1930 is being made by a Southern commission. All details leading up to the outrages are being uncovered by trained investigators. When we have the full report of that investigation, we may have data on which to base a concerted campaign to eradicate the crime of lynching.

July 3, 1931

ST. LOUIS, MO., ARGUS

FIVE LYNCHED IN 6 MONTHS

Four Less For First Half
Of This Year Than For
Same Period Last Year
Mississippi Leads

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 1.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research that in the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; ten less than the number fifteen for the first six months of 1923; twenty-five less than the number thirty for the first six months of 1922 and thirty-one less than the number thirty-six for the first six months of 1921.

Officers Show Alertness

There were thirty-two instances in

which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and twenty-eight in southern states. In twenty-six of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of fifty-five persons, ten whites and forty-five Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which the lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

July 5, 1931

MINDEN LA TRIBUNE

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS DECREASES

Only Five Lynchings During
First Six Months
Of 1931

According to a report issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, there have been only five lynchings during the first six months of 1931. This number is four less than the number nine for the six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number eleven for the first six months of each of the years 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the same period of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 in 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other six instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four were negroes.

Ft. Pierce News Tribune

FLORIDA JUL 7 1931

DATE

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

An encouraging report on lynchings has been sent out by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, showing that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings, or 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925. The number has steadily decreased since 1921 when there were 36 lynchings.

Much propaganda has been put out by the press against mob law, together with the concerted efforts of many organizations and institutions, and figures prove that it has been effective. Mob rule was at one time a dangerous menace in the smaller communities of this country, and it has become unpopular through public disapproval. The many instances on record of misjudgment and mistake on the part of mobs has done much toward the reduction of lynchings.

During one year not far distant, Florida lead the United States in lynchings. It is pleasing to note that the name of Florida is missing for the first six months of 1931. Mississippi led with 2, Missouri, North Dakota, and Tennessee each had 1, this year. Of the persons lynched, 1 was white and 4 negroes, 3 charged with attempted rape, and 2 with murder.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented

lynchings. Of these, 4 were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used, making a total of 55 persons, 10 white and 45 negro, who were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Civilization will not tolerate mob rule, which is often proven unjust and ruthless. In addition to the blood of the victim which is upon the heads of those who participate in these atrocities, whole communities are stirred up for weeks at a time, and much damage is done to the morale of its people, as well as the regular course of law. It is indeed gratifying to learn that we are showing an inclination to allow our duly appointed officers to take the necessary steps to curb crime, and that they are becoming well organized in the prevention of lynchings, and the rule of the mob.

JACKSON, MISS., CLARION

JULY 9, 1931

**Lynchings Decrease Steadily But
Mississippi Still Leads The List**
Tuskegee institute reports only five lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1931.

This is a good record, indicating continuance of the steady decrease in the annual lynching total, for during the same period in 1927 there were 11 lynchings; 15 in 1923; 30 in 1922, and 36 in 1921.

Of the five lynchings during the first half of 1931, however, two were in Mississippi.

This isn't so good. It is a "distinction" of which the best classes of Mississippians are weary.

Here's hoping that some other state claims it for the second half of the year, if there are any more lynchings this year.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press

TAMPA FLA TRIBUNE

JULY 6, 1931

Fewer Lynchings

Dr. Moton, of the Tuskegee Institute, has issued his semi-annual statement of lynchings. The record shows improvement. Florida, we are happy to note, has a clean record for this year.

In the first six months of 1931 there were five lynchings. This number is four less than the number nine for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number four for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is four less than the number nine for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in northern and western states and 28 in southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched one was white and four negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one.

NORFOLK VA PILOT

JULY 6, 1931

Fewer Lynchings In 1931

Tuskegee Institute's semiannual report on lynchings in the United States, with its listing of five instances in which mob law has prevailed, suggests that the current year will fall more in line with the decreasing number of lynchings during the past ten years than 1930 did. If the same rate holds for the second six months of 1931, the full year will show ten lynchings. That would be ten too many. It would, however, bring the record back to the 1929 total and would be one less than the 1928 total. Should that happen the downward curve of lynchings which has been most pronounced for the past ten years would be fairly regular with the exception of two conspicuously bad years, 1926 and 1930.

To a certain extent, 1928 appears explainable. The lynching increase then was largely in Florida, and that State was undergoing a period of social unrest as a result of the land boom

and the floating population it drew. No such explanation is available for 1930. Hypotheses based upon depressed economic conditions have been suggested, but in the light of the greatly improved lynching record for the first six months of this year, all such ideas have lost plausibility. Economic conditions did not improve in the first half of 1931. Yet the number of lynchings sharply decreased.

The uncertainties in these comparisons draws attention once more to the importance of a serious study of lynchings such as has been undertaken by a special committee named by the Inter-racial Commission. That study is now in progress, based in large part upon a minute case history of every lynching in recent years, with experienced sociologists and students of race relations sifting the information in the effort to draw some definite conclusions. Meantime, the record for the past ten years shows sufficient progress to demonstrate the advisability of continuing the steady pressure which has brought about striking improvement in that period.

FREEPORT N Y REVIEW

JULY 6, 1931

LYNCHINGS DECLINE

The first half of 1931 has shown some improvement in law observance, at least.

The semi-annual report of lynchings in the United States, which is always issued promptly on the first of January and first of July by Major Robert R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, shows a decline of four from the first half of 1930.

While only five persons were lynched during the first half of 1931, this does not set a new low record, but is one more than was reported in the first half of 1929 and the same as for the first half of 1928.

Last year nine persons were lynched during the first half of the year, which was the largest number since 1926. The South, which has always suffered the humiliation of having the largest number of lynchings, chiefly with negro victims, shows up better than usual in the record this year.

One of the lynchings was in North Dakota and another in Missouri. The other three were in Tennessee and Mississippi, the latter reporting two. Four of the victims were negroes and one was white.

Jan. - June

The most favorable phase of the report for the first half of the year is the number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Many of the lynchings

have always been due to cowardly officers or because the officers were in sympathy with the mob instead of upholding the law they represented.

During the first six months of 1931 there were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, while in six cases force was used to frustrate the attempts of mobs.

Five lynchings in half a year is a very low figure compared with the old rate at which they took place, but there is no reason whatever why mob law should not be outlawed altogether. It is a matter of putting courageous men in office to enforce the law, using good judgment in handling prisoners when feeling runs high and making sure that men guilty of desperate and atrocious crimes are not permitted to escape when their fate is left to the courts.

Confidence in the courts should be a strong factor in eliminating lynch law, although, as a matter of fact, lynchings have always been most frequent in the South where as a rule the same men would have been convicted and most of the guilty ones sentenced to death in due time. The problem so far as the South is concerned is one of vigorous protection of prisoners charged with crimes which ordinarily result in mobs.

OKLA. EAGLE (wk)

JULY 4, 1931

Lynching Record for the First Six Months of 1931

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 1—Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. I find according to the records com-

pared at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and is 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 instances, 10 whites and 45 Negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

BELOIT WIS NEWS

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1931.

FRUSTRATED LYNCHINGS

AFTER the shocking toll of 25 lynchings in the United States during 1930, it is encouraging to have the report from Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee institute, where accurate statistics on this subject are kept, that there were only five lynchings in America during the first six months of this year.

What is most encouraging about Dr. Moton's report is the number of instances in

3572

which attempted lynchings were frustrated. There were 32 such instances. In 26, the prisoners were removed to other places for safer keeping or the guards augmented. In six cases the authorities did not hesitate to use such a show of force that the mobs were quelled and cheated of their prey. Thus a total of 55 persons were saved from summary execution to be dealt with by orderly processes of justice.

When the number of frustrated lynchings within a given period outnumbers the total of accomplished mob outrages in a ratio of six to one, it is an indication that community conscience is being aroused to the enormity of lynch law and public authorities, supported by the better element of citizens, are asserting themselves in a way to minimize this national disgrace.

Light July 9
Waxahachie
Texas

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY— TEXAS HAS NO LYNCHING TO MAR GOOD NAME—

The lynching record for the first six months of 1931, as issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Agricultural Institute, gives the gratifying news that Texas thus far has a clean slate. Not a person, white or colored, has been the victim of mob law. The total was only five, four less than the total a year ago.

But, and here is the shameful commentary on this age, the murder list grows astonishingly. Many more are killed daily; the violent death toll mounts steadily. It is becoming increasingly difficult to punish properly the cold-blooded murderer.

Giving details of the lynching record, Principal R. R. Morton of the Tuskegee institution says:

"I find according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research that in the first six months of 1931 there were 5 lynchings. This number is 4 less

than the number 9 for the first six months of 1930; 1 more than the number 4 for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1928; 6 less than the number 11 for the first six months of 1927 and 4 less than the number 9 for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1915; it is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number 15 for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number 30 for the first six months of 1922 and 31 less than the number 36 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 4 were in Northern and Western States and 28 in Southern States. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the 6 other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 1 was white and 4 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 3; murder, 2.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1."

DUNTON TEX. POST
JULY 11, 1931

Lynchings Decrease

THE number of lynchings is decreasing steadily, according to figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute, but the records bring the disheartening revelation that there is no diminution of the mob spirit.

During the first six months of this year, five lynchings occurred, which is four less than in the same period of 1930. During the first six months of 1921, just 10 years ago, 36 lynchings disgraced the South. Since that time, the trend has been toward fewer lynchings, with only four reported during the first half of 1929.

On the surface, the situation appears to have improved. Actually, mob spirit is as rampant as ever and the figures force the conclusion that the improvement has been attained because officers of the law are demonstrating more courage and more fidelity to their trust by protecting prisoners from the fury of mobs.

During the first six months of this year, officers prevented 32 prisoners from falling into the hands of lynchers. If these attempted assassinations had succeeded, the record would have been worse than that of 1921.

While every person who seeks the elimination of the lynching blot from the South's escutcheon, deplores the fact that respect for law has not eliminated mob spirit, the changed

attitude of officers is gratifying indeed.

Many lynchings in the past undoubtedly were perpetrated with the consent of officers. Others were carried out because the officers made no efforts to save their prisoners. Still others resulted from negligence on the part of officers in providing sufficient protection and from failure to move prisoners when strong feeling was apparent.

Without the aid of the officers, the lynching disgrace could not be eliminated. With the law standing firmly between the mob and its prey, mob murders can and will be stamped out.

MONESSEN PA NEWS CALL

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1931.

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee Institute reports five lynchings for the half-year, compared with 9 for the first 6 months of 1930 when there were only four. More significant than any decrease which may be only temporary is the large number of instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fifty-five persons were protected from mobs which sought their lives and were held for trial for their alleged offenses.

This showing supports the contention that where the authorities are in earnest they can usually prevent a lynching. There were formerly many instances in which a prisoner was delivered to a mob by a timorous sheriff. Such cases are now rare. More than one southern governor has stiffened the backbones of local officials by taking a decided stand on this subject.

There has been a great reduction in the number of lynchings since the early years of this decade, when they averaged around sixty annually. In 1919 there were eighty-three and in 1901 there were 135. Whether there are fewer of the crimes which especially incite mob demonstrations, or official firmness is a more potent factor, the improvement is apparent. Every lynching is a direct attack on the system which is designed to insure justice for all. Nothing can justify the taking by a mob of the law into its own hands. It is to be hoped the lessening of this evil, recorded in the first six months, will be continued throughout the year.

Express
DALLAS TEX. NEWS
JULY 11, 1931

5 LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS

Tuskegee, Ala. (CNS)—In the first six months of the current year there were five lynchings in the United States according to the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute. "This number," says the report of the department, "is four less than the number for the first six months of 1930; one more than the number, four, for the first six months of 1929; it is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1928; six less than the number, 11 for the first six months of 1927; and is four less than the number, eight, for the first six months of each of the years, 1926 and 1925; and is the same as the number, five, for the first six months of 1924; 10 less than the number, 15, for the first six months of 1923; 25 less than the number, 30, for the first six months of 1922, and 31 less than the 26 for the first six months of 1921.

"There were 32 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these four were in Northern and Western states and 28 in Southern states. In 26 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the six other instances force was used. Thus a total of 55 persons, 10 whites and 45 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched one was white and four were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, three; murder, two.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Mississippi, two; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one."

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, San Press.
SAN JOSE, CAL.
NEWS

DEC 31 1931

Lynchings

Of course, in extreme cases there seems to be in the minds of some people a just reason for an occasional lynching. For instance, if young Hickman had been arrested before leaving Los Angeles for the terrible crime he had committed, undoubtedly there would have been a lynching and few would have criticized.

However, the old-fashioned lynching bees which were quite regular in former years throughout the South, have grown less each year. The Tuskegee Institute finds in a search of records that there were only 13 persons lynched in 1931—eight less than in 1930, and a much smaller number than in former years.

Of the number of persons lynched, one was white and 12 were Negroes and the offenses charged were: Murder, five; attempted rape, five, and wounding a man, three. Strange to say, all of the lynchings during the year just closed were confined to southern states, except one, as follows: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two. We are glad to note this decrease in lynchings because our just laws will take care of all fiendish offenders, and if a death sentence is necessary it will be given them at a trial in which they will have all the opportunity in the world to put up a proper defense.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.
GAZETTE

JAN 11 1932

OVERRULING JUDGE LYNCH.

Thirteen lynchings, twelve of them Negroes, occurred in the United States in 1931. The total was eight less than the year before, but this fact is of little or no importance, since the number was more than for 1928 or 1929. Yet a broad survey of conditions relating to mob murder is most encouraging—in fact, sustenance is found for more hope than perhaps ever was possible before that one terrible phase of racial animosity can and will be dealt with in a civilized manner. A few details will suffice to indicate the improved outlook.

Of foremost significance is the fact that the forces of law and order last year prevented attempts to lynch eighty-eight persons, most of them Negroes in the South, where, everybody knows, racial antagonism is the strongest. In these cases, mobs were cooled by simple measures—mostly by removing pris-

oners to other jails and by armed force. Simple, that is, provided they are backed by the proper spirit. And that is the whole point. The successes prove that a civilized spirit was behind, and working through, the forces of law and order. That is saying a great deal for the South, where for so long officers of the law took the attitude that once a mob forms, there is no staying its will.

But probably even greater significance attaches to the case of the Negro, Willie Peterson, at Birmingham, Ala. Tried on a charge of a criminal attack on three socially prominent Southern women, two of whom died in the crime, and the third of whom positively identified him as the criminal, Peterson—wonder of wonders!—was not summarily convicted. The trial resulted in a hung jury, there being a reasonable doubt that he was the right man. A white Southern jury did not blindly accept the word of a white woman against a Negro. It weighed the evidence, given in a trial reported to have been conducted with complete fairness, and disagreed.

CHICAGO, ILL.
TRIBUNE

JAN 9 1932

Editorial of the Day.

LYNCHINGS CAN BE STOPPED.

[The Des Moines Register.]
Tuskegee institute has a very obvious interest in the progress of tolerance between the colored and white races, and therefore in the lynching evil. Its research department collects records constantly not only on lynchings but on ramified phases of the whole field of racial antagonism.
The institute now reports that there were 13 persons lynched during the last year, and that 12 of them were Negroes. There is no especial significance in the fact that this was 8 fewer lynchings than occurred in 1930. For it was more than had occurred in 1929 or 1928.

But there is something about the Tuskegee report that has real significance in it. And that is that despite the 13 persons actually lynched, the forces of law and order prevented attempts to lynch 88 others. Furthermore, of the 57 instances in which lives were thus saved, 50 of them were in the southern states and 70 of the 88 persons involved were Negroes. This surely demonstrates an inclination toward protection of Negroes under arrest, even in the southern states, which is too often overlooked by northerners and westerners.

But it demonstrates something else that is more important. It shows that mere removal of the prisoner to another jail or augmenting the guards will prevent violence [that was true in 45 of the 57 cases]; and that if necessary lynchings can be prevented by the use of armed forces [as they were used in the other 12 cases].

Lynching remains largely a disgrace of the south. All but one of the 1931 lynchings occurred in the southern states. When the mass of enlightened citizens in those states get it thoroughly into their heads that lynchings are not inevitable, that the en-

forcers of law could prevent them if they honestly wished to, then the final traces of this scar on an ostensibly civilized nation will disappear—and not until.

RECORD
COLUMBIA, S. C.

JAN 2 1932

NO LYNCHINGS ARE RECORDED

South Carolina Slate Kept
Clean in 1931; 13 Are
Lynched Elsewhere

The name of South Carolina is conspicuous by its absence from the roll of states where lynchings occurred in 1931. There were two in 1930.

Thirteen lynchings were recorded in 1931 in eight Southern and one middle Northwestern state by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., as compared with 21 in 1930.

Mississippi led the list with three. Florida had two, West Virginia, two, Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee, one each.

South Carolina's last lynching occurred early in 1930 near Union when a negro accused of attempting to criminally assault a young white farm girl was put to death by an armed group of men. A short while before, a negro of Walhalla was taken from the Oconee county jail where he had been placed for an attack on a white woman and killed by angry citizens. In the Walhalla case, several men were brought to trial but acquitted.

Ten of the persons lynching in 1931 were taken from the hands of the law. Seven were dragged from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One was a white person and 12 were negroes. Offenses charged were murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; and wounding a man, 1.

In 57 instances law enforcement officers prevented lynchings, the Tuskegee records show. Seven were in Northern states and 50 in Southern states. In 45 cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 12 other cases armed forces were used to repeal the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons, 16 white men, two white women and 70 negro men were saved from death.

Records for lynching to 1927, as given by the Tuskegee Institute are: 1931, 13; 1930, 21; 1929, 10; 1928, 11 and 1927, 16.

SHEFFIELD, ALA.
TRI CITIES DAILY

JAN 2 1932

DECREASE IS SHOWN IN LYNCHINGS DURING 1931

Alabama Contributed One To Total,
Report Discloses

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 2—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute records show that 13 persons were lynched last year compared with 21 in 1930.

Seven victims of mobs were taken from jails, one from a hospital cot and two were free on bail. One man was burned after being hanged. Officers prevented lynchings in 57 cases, 50 of which were in the South. In 12 of these cases, armed forces were used to protect the prisoners. Twelve negroes and one white man were lynched. Five were charged with murder, five with attempted assault and three with wounding men.

The lynchings by states follow: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

Walla Walla, Wash.
BULLETIN

JAN 3 1932

1931 LYNCHING TOTAL RUNS BELOW YEAR AGO

Thirteen persons, 12 negroes and 1 white, were lynched in 1931, according to a report from Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Alabama. This is eight lynchings under the 1930 mark.

Officers of the law prevented 57 other lynchings, with a total of 88 persons, 18 of them whites, spared. Ten of the 13 lynched were taken from the hands of the law.

Lynching occurred in the following states: Mississippi 3, West Virginia and Florida 2 each, Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee 1 each.

WABVILLE, TENN., BANNER
Monday, January 11, 1932

HARRIMAN, TENN., RECORD
Thursday, December 31, 1931

DAYETTEVILLE, TENN., NEWS
Thursday, December 31, 1931

MOBILE ALA. REGISTER
JANUARY 2, 1932

JAN 1 1932

The Annual Toll of Lynchings

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, the famous school for colored young men and women, keeps careful account of lynchings and attempted lynchings in the United States. This year it gives the following summary over the signature of R. R. Moton, principal of the school:

"Dear Sir:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

"There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchiers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, 3.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

"R. R. MOTON,

Principal."

This is a disgraceful record. It would be more disgraceful if it were possible to give in this column the individual circumstances surrounding each lynching. For, in almost every instance where there has been a lynching, there have been spineless officers of the law. The fact that in 57 instances officers of the law prevent lynchings, shows that determined and courageous officers can prevent them. Almost invariably every lynching crowd has been composed of hoodlums led by irresponsible characters. But that does not detract from our responsibility for bringing to an end this shameful, year by year record.

FROM Eagle

Evening News
NEWARK, N. J.

MIDDLETOWN CONN. PRESS
JANUARY 2, 1932

DAYTON, O., REVIEW
Thursday, December 31, 1931

Jan 1 - 32

WILMORE KY. ENTERPRISE (wkly)
JAN. 1, 1932

BIRMINGHAM, ALA. Chattanooga, Tenn.

TIMES

JAN 1 1932

DROP IN LYNCHINGS RECORDED FOR 1931

Only 13 Killed During Year As
Compared With 21 Put To
Death During 1930

Lynchings in the United States in 1931 showed a decrease from 1930, according to figures compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. The totals for the two years are, 13 in 1931 and 21 in 1930. The total for 1929 was 10, for 1928, 11, and for 1927, 16.

Of the total in 1931, according to the Tuskegee figures, 10 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. In 57 instances, officers prevented lynchings, the report states, seven of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. A total of 88 persons, 18 whites, 16 men and two women; and 70 negro men were thus saved.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes. The lynchings were divided by states as follows: Mississippi, three; Florida, two; West Virginia, two; Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, North Dakota, Missouri and Tennessee, one each.

TIMES

El Paso, Texas

JAN 9 1932

RECORD

Benton Tex

JAN 5 1932

AMERICAN
HATTIESBURG, MISS.

JAN 6 1932

AKRON, OHIO, TIMES-PRESS
Friday, January 1, 1932

JAN 15 1932

WARSAW, IND., TIMES
Monday, January 11, 1932

SOMERSET, KY., COM'WEALTH
Wednesday, December 30, 1931
Newark N. J. Star Eagle

DEC 31 1931

LOUISVILLE, KY., COUR-JOUR.
Friday, January 1, 1932

ANDERSON, IND., HERALD
Wednesday, December 30, 1931

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., TIMES
Thursday, December 31, 1931

YOUNGSTOWN OHIO VINDICATOR
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1932

CLEVELAND, OHIO, GAZETTE
Saturday, January 9, 1932

RALEIGH (No. Carolina) OBSERVER
NEW YEAR'S DAY—1932

CONCORD (No. Carolina) TRIBUNE
Monday, January 4, 1932

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
TIMES

JAN 9 1932

MT. STERLING, KY., SENT-DEM.
Thursday, January 14, 1932

Franklin, Tenn., Review Appeal
Thursday, December 31, 1931

WILMORE, KY., ENTERPRISE
Friday, January 1, 1932

January 1, 1932
OSKALOOSA IA. HERALD

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NEWS
Friday, January 1, 1932

WILLIMANTIC (Conn.) CHRONICLE
Saturday, January 2, 1932

ASHEVILLE, N. C.
TIMES

JAN 9 1932

ALBION AMERICAN

Thursday, December 31, 1931

HAVRE DE GRACE (MD) REPUBLICAN
Saturday, January 2, 1932

NEWBERN, TENN., TENN'
Thursday, December 31, 1931

CYNTHIANA, KY., LOG CABIN
Friday, January 1, 1932

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., TIMES
JAN. 2, 1932

DES MOINES IA. REGISTER
JANUARY 4, 1932

ALEXANDRIA LA. TOWN TALK
JAN. 1, 1932

January 4, 1932
LEXINGTON, MO., NEWS

ONEIDA, TENN., NEWS
Friday, January 1, 1932

NEW IBERIA (La.) ENTERPRISE
NEW YEAR'S DAY—1932

DERRY (New Hampshire) NEWS
NEW YEAR'S DAY—1932

NORTHPORT (N. Y.) OBSERVER
NEW YEAR'S DAY—1932

CYNTHIANA, KY., DEMOCRAT
Thursday, January 14, 1932

FULSA OKLA. EAGLE (wkly)
JAN. 2, 1932

PARIS (KY) BOURBON NEWS
JAN. 5, 1932

ROANOKE, ALA., LEADER
JAN. 6, 1932

Tampa Tribune

FLORIDA

DATE 12/27/31

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

JOURNAL & TIMES

JAN 4 1932

SELMA ALA., TIMES-JOURNAL
JAN. 1, 1932

WORCESTER (Mass.) GAZETTE
NEW YEAR'S DAY—1932

HICKMAN, KY., COURIER
Thursday, January 7, 1932

Mankato, Minn., Free Press
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1931

LOUISVILLE, KY., COUR-JOUR.
Saturday, January 2, 1932

NASHVILLE, TENN., TENN'
Friday, January 1, 1932

PASADENA, CAL., STAR-NEWS
JANUARY 1, 1932

HERALD

SHARON, PA.

JAN 12 1932

NASHVILLE, TENN., TENN'
Sunday, January 3, 1932

HARTFORD (Conn.) TIMES
Saturday, January 2, 1932

PHOENIX, ARIZ., REPUBLICAN
JANUARY 2, 1932

HARTFORD CONN TIMES
JANUARY 2, 1932

PITTSBURGH, PA.

LOS ANGELES, CAL. EAGLE
JANUARY 1, 1932

December 31, 1931

BELTON TEX. JOURNAL

ELLISVILLE, MISS., PROGRESS ITEM
JAN. 7, 1932

BIRMINGHAM ALA. AGE HER.
JANUARY 6, 1932

LYNCHBURG, VA.

ADVANCE

JAN 6 1932

January 1, 1932
INDEPENDENCE MO EXAM

MOBILE ALA. REGISTER
JANUARY 2, 1932

Lynchings - 1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

Birmingham, Ala. News
Wednesday, January 6, 1932

The Decrease

In Lynchings

Enlightened public opinion continues to make progress against the barbaric practice of lynching. In 1931, the number of lynchings was 13, a noteworthy decrease from the total for the preceding year, when there were 21. Yet even with this material decrease, the number of lynchings in 1931 was not as small as in two other recent years. In 1928 there were 11, and in the following year 10. In 1927 there were 16. The fact that there was a decrease last year under the year before, however, is gratifying.

The very substantial progress that has been made in putting down the practice of lynching may be better realized when we remember that as recently as two or three decades ago the yearly totals often ran in the neighborhood of 100, and sometimes exceeded that figure. Four times since the beginning of the twentieth century the number of lynchings in a single year has exceeded 100, and before the beginning of the century, for as far back as records are available, the annual total was always more than 100, and sometimes in excess of 200.

Since 1900, notable progress has been made in putting down these criminal acts. At the present rate, it should not be many years before we shall be able to see a year pass without a single lynching.

Two things are responsible for the increasingly good showing that is being made. One is an aroused public sentiment against lynching, and the other is the exercise of greater care on the part of officers of the law in protecting prisoners from mobs.

One lynching is recorded for Alabama for 1931. Since Alabama more than once has gone a whole year without a lynching, it is especially regrettable to see a black mark scored against this state for the last year.

Journal
SHREVEPORT

LOUISIANA

JAN 8 1932

The Lynching Record.

STATISTICS on lynchings in the United States, as reported by the Tuskegee Institute's department of records and research, show that there were fewer mobs at work during the past twelve months than during the previous year. Thirteen persons were lynched in 1931, compared with 21 the year before. Mississippi had the worst record, with three lynchings recorded; Florida and West Virginia were next with two each; while the following states, including our own, had one each marked against them: Ala-

bama, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee.

Had it not been for prompt and effective efforts on the part of officers, there would have been 80 additional lynchings. Mobs had formed, or were threatening to form, to take the law into their own hands, when the officers arranged to remove their prisoners from unsafe places, or to take other steps which resulted in thwarting the would-be lynchers. The action of these officers showed that when representatives of the law are determined, they can prevent mob violence.

Even 13 cases of mob violence are just 13 more than justified, but there is cause for praise in a review of the past year's lynching record in that it recorded a fewer number of such tragedies. As long as there is law and machinery to carry it into effect, there is no reason for mobs to take charge of the wheels of justice. Every case of mob violence is an insult to those who respect the law.

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald
Wednesday, January 6, 1932

Lynching Statistics

Thirteen persons were lynched in the United States last year, Principal Moton of Tuskegee Institute, reports. Twelve of these victims of mob violence were negroes. The mark in 1931 was eight below the figure for 1930. Ten of the 13 lynched last year were in the hands of the law. The mere fact that during 12 months of widespread unemployment and growing restlessness the number of victims should have been materially reduced is noteworthy in itself.

But even more important and gratifying is what Principal Moton has to say about the frustration of mobs. In 57 cases, officers of the law prevented lynchings, and 50 of these were in the South. This resulted in the protection of 88 persons, 70 of whom were negroes. That is a fine record, disclosing an increased concern on the part of the authorities for the safety of prisoners. Back of this concern is working, of course, an aroused public sentiment, which before long will have virtually eliminated the evil of lynching.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

States

JAN 1 1932

Year's Lynching

LOUISIANA, after having a clean slate for several years, figures in the 1931 Tuskegee record of mob violence with one bee. We trust it will be the last.

According to the record thirteen persons were lynched during the year—not all in the South. This is eight less than the number twenty-one for 1930, three more than the number ten for 1921, two more than the number eleven for 1928, and three less than the number sixteen for 1927.

3559

Jan. - Dec.

3559

Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; seven were taken from jails; one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

In fifty-seven instances officers of the law prevented lynchings, applauded by the public for their work. Seven of these cases were in North- and Western States and fifty in Southern. In forty-five of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In twelve other instances armed forces were used to repel the mobs. A total of eighty-eight persons—eighteen whites, sixteen men and two women, and seventy negro men were thus saved from death.

This is the record: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; and West Virginia, 2.

This is thirteen more lynchings than should have occurred. Nevertheless progress is being made in the campaign in the South to wipe out lynching altogether, as witness the fact that of the thirteen four were in other sections. We hope the day is coming when that will be achieved, and it should not be long coming, for rarely does a lynching now occur when if the courts were respected and the majesty of the law permitted to prevail the same result would not obtain.

NORFOLK, VA.

VIRGINIAN PILOT

JAN 2 1932

The Downward Lynching Curve

Tuskegee Institute's annual report on lynchings confirms the belief, already widely held, that the bad record of 21 lynchings in 1930 was abnormal and not indicative of a permanent trend. For the 12 months just passed, the institute's department of records and research lists 13 lynchings. Although this is 13 too many, it is far better than the 21 lynchings of the previous year, and is less than the average for the past five years. Since those five years in turn show a marked decrease, on the average, over the five preceding them, it would appear that the downward lynching curve has again resumed its course.

Only a few figures are necessary to suggest the scope of this advance. The number of lynchings from 1927 to 1931, inclusive, was 16, 11, 10, 21, and 13, or an average of 14.2. For the earlier five years, from 1922 to 1926, inclusive, it was 57, 33, 16, 17, 30, or an average of 30.6. If to these ten years is added the previous three, to include the whole post-war period (1919-1931), the average is 33.2. Compared with that figure, the improvement in the last five years and even in the year just passed, is highly encouraging, especially in view of the fact that any block of years prior to the war shows an even greater number of lynchings. This would still leave the curious increase in 1930 unexplained. But it is to be noted that discouraging as that year was, it has had its good results. The organization

of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching was a direct outgrowth of the rise in the lynching curve, and the commission's studies, part of which are already completed,

constitute some of the most valuable information the South has on this peculiarly Southern problem.

As usual, Negroes predominate among the mob victims, this past year in the proportion of 12 Negroes to one white man. Only five of the victims were charged with attempted criminal assault, and none with the actual crime. In 57 instances officers prevented lynchings, and thereby probably saved the lives of 88 persons. The States where lynchings occurred were, again as usual, such Southern States as Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Missouri, and also such States as Tennessee and West Virginia, where mob action is not as frequent as further south. The real surprises of the year are the lynchings in North Dakota and in Maryland.

MARSHALLTOWN, IO.

TIMES REPUBLICAN

DEC 31 1931

LYNCH LAW.

Robert R. Moton, head of Tuskegee institute in Alabama, annually makes a report on lynchings in the country.

For many years the lynching of colored people in southern states was a sort of pastime.

Both white and colored races have used all the powers at their command to remedy this deplorable practice. Definite and gratifying progress has been registered in this direction.

According to records kept by this Tuskegee institute there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number 21 for 1930, three more than the number 10 for 1929, two more than the number 11 for 1928, and three less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in

northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of these instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 88 persons, 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

The gratifying feature of this report is found in the large number of cases where officers of the law have protected prisoners from mob violence.

Neither colored nor white opponents of lynching seek the acquittal of those who are guilty of the commission of crimes of any sort. All they ask in connection with charges of crime is that the persons so charged, regardless of race, shall be given a fair American trial.

No government can endure unless it can destroy the evils which exist among its people. No danger is greater to any government than that where mob law is tolerated and in some cases encouraged.

Lynch law is trial by mob and punishment by mob. It is a defiance of constituted authority by a mob or a dissatisfied group who defy law. The report above is shocking in that human life is taken without process of law wherein it differs from mob defiance of statutes expressed by riot, violence and injury which call out an Iowa army of 1,700 men to support legal authority against lynch law.

OCALA, FLA.
EVENING STAR

DEC 29 1931

LYNCHING IN 1931

There were 13 people lynched in the United States in 1931, which is eight less than in 1930 and a return to normal as there were more lynchings in 1930 than there had been in a good many years. Thirteen is somewhere around the average in late years as mob violence had decreased considerably since the time when it was considered one of the outstanding menaces to the peace and security of the land.

This number, it appears, is only a little more than the average would be in a country of this size, if there were no race problem, no interracial differences and no foreign element. It is not viewed with alarm, as was the sharp increase from ten in 1928 to 21 in 1930.

There would probably be as many as eight or ten victims of mob violence in a country of the size and population of the United States in a year in spite of all officials could do. The most noticeable and at the same time gratifying thing about the mob statistics for 1931 was the increasing efficiency of officers in preventing lynchings. There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and 50 in the south. A total of 88 persons, of whom 18 were whites (16 men and two women) and 70 negro men, were thus saved from death at the hands of

Of the 13 persons lynched in 1931, one was white and twelve were negroes. Five were charged with murder, five with attempted rape and three with wounding men. These lynchings occurred in the different states as follows: Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, one each; Mississippi, 3; Florida, 2; Maryland, 1; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; West Virginia, 2.

The proportional number of negroes as compared with the various offenses charged was entirely too large to assure the colored population the security and protection of the law that the race as a whole should feel. Only five of the thirteen cases concerned alleged crimes having to do with women. The other charges of murder and assault may have been in part justifiable homicide or self-defense for aught that is known about them. At least, it was up to the courts and not the mobs to determine the degree of crime and mete out the proper punishment.

Eight of the mob victims were lynched in the south and five in other sections which is entirely too many for the south in proportion to area and population as compared with the rest of the nation. The conclusion is that there is still something wrong with interracial relations in the south when only five out of 12 of the victims were negroes and eight of the lynchings occurred in the south and four in border states. These figures refute the claim sometimes made in defense of the lynching record in the south that negroes are never mobbed except for attacks on white women.

It is not altogether for the sake of the colored population that the south-

ing tendency. The negroes must be brought to respect and observe the law in order to make desirable neighbors for the whites and it is only by having respect for the law and its operation and confidence in its security that they will make the right kind of citizens. Furthermore, the disrespect for the law engendered through lynchings will react upon the whites as has been demonstrated by floggings and other mob demonstrations.

In this connection, attention must be called to the fact that last year when there were eight or ten more than the average number of lynchings, only one person was lynched in Florida and that was a white man, a foreigner. This year there have been two lynchings in Florida, presumably of negroes. The state of Florida is not protecting her negroes from mob violence as she should.

Marion county, on the other hand, has a perfect record as far as freedom from lynchings is concerned, thanks to Sheriff S. C. M. Thomas. Although there have been two aggravated crimes in this county during the year, either of which would have justified the people in being incited to mob fury if ever a case would, the county authorities saved both perpetrators for the justice of the courts. This particular county, therefore, should feel happily free from the stain of lynching.

**LYNCHING RECORD
DECREASE**
Wichita, Kansas

DEAR SIR:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 in 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. 10 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. 7 were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. 1 of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 7 of these were in Northern and Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men, 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

Yours very truly,

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

ROBERT R. MOTON sends the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931: "I find, according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number (21) for 1930, 3 more than the number (10) for 1929, 2 more than the number (11) for 1928, and 3 less than the number (16) for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law, 7 were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital, and 2 had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned. There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons—18 whites (16 men and 2 women) and 70 Negro men—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the 13 persons lynched 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1;

Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

BUFFALO, N. Y.
COURIER EXPRESS

JAN 1 1932

Lynchings

Editor Buffalo Courier-Express:—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were thirteen persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number, 21, for 1930, three more than the number, ten, for 1929, two more than the number, eleven, for 1928, and three less than the number, sixteen, for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law, seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the twelve other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons—eighteen white, sixteen men and two women, and 70 Negro men—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the thirteen persons lynched, one was white and twelve were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, three.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 30th
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
AGE-HERALD

JAN 2 1932

DECREASE SHOWN IN 1931 LYNCHINGS

Alabama Contributed One To Total, Report Discloses

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1—(AP)—Tuskegee Institute records show that 13 persons were lynched last year compared with 21 in 1930.

Seven victims of mobs were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two were free on bail. One man was burned after being hanged.

Officers prevented lynchings in 57 cases, 50 of which were in the South. In 12 of these cases, armed forces were used to protect the prisoners. Twelve negroes and one white man were lynched. Five were charged with murder, five with attempted as-

Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press

JAMESTOWN, N. Y.
MORNING POST

JAN 1 - 1932

YEAR'S LYNCHING RECORD.

In the year just closed there were thirty lynchings, according to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute. This number is eight less than in 1930, but greater than in the next three preceding years. The most hopeful feature of the situation lies not so much in that there were so few instances in which mobs performed the functions of the law as in the number of cases in which lynchings were prevented. The public disposition to inflict summary execution may not have been notably curbed, but officers seem to have an increased appreciation of the obligations resting on them to protect prisoners and preserve them for orderly and legal trial.

In 57 instances the attempts of mobs to seize accused persons were prevented. Seven of these were in Northern or Western states and fifty in the South. Since the South has always been the most grievous offender in this respect, the activity exhibited by officers in that section in thwarting the designs of lynchings is particularly encouraging. In twelve cases armed force was employed to repel the mobs.

When officers everywhere are ready to perform their full duty, there will be little opportunity for lynchings to be carried out. In the great majority of instances in which the legal custodians of prisoners have been overpowered, the determination exhibited probably was not of a type to convince mob members of the sincerity of the officers' effort.

In the record of lynchings last year Mississippi was the worst offender with three, though Florida and West Virginia had two, while Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee each had one. Of the victims of the mobs twelve were negroes and one white. Aside from supplanting the law, lynchings often are the result of suspicion

rather than proof and may be inflicted on a person innocent of the crime charged.

OBSERVER

Northport, N.Y.

JAN 1 1932

13 Lynchings in 1931

Editor Northport Observer:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 7 were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail; one of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 7 of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons; 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women; and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder 5; attempted rape 5; wounding men 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama 1, Florida 2, Louisiana 1, Maryland 1, Mississippi 3, Missouri 1, North Dakota 1, Tennessee 1, West Virginia 2.

Your very truly,

R. R. Moton, Principal
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial
Institute

LOWELL, MASS.
COURIER-OPINION

JAN 4 1932

LYNCHING IN 1931.

According to the records of the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, the number of lynchings last year was 13, which, one regrets to observe, seems to be about the normal, if not an irreducible minimum. It is, however, a decrease of eight from the abnormal number of such occurrences in 1930. The state record is Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

The distribution of these lynchings may or may not be a matter for national self-gratulation. One of the states which has not had a good record in the past—Texas—is missing from this list. Mississippi and Florida have done better than in some recent years, Georgia and South Carolina, among the most heavily Negro-populated states, were free from lynchings; while two of the others, Louisiana and Alabama, had only one each. The record as a whole indicates improvement in the districts where this crime has been most prevalent; indeed the so-called "Black Belt" has perhaps never done better since the Reconstruction period.

On the other hand there was one lynching in distinctly northern territory—North Dakota—and two lynchings with three deaths in former slave, but not secessionist, states, which have been free from them for a good many years; to wit, Maryland and West Virginia. These may be considered sporadic unless and until additional tragedies of this sort compel the belief that mob law-

lessness is really spreading into regions where it has hitherto either not existed, or been held in check by the officials. Unfortunately there are indications on the Eastern Shore of Maryland that mobs are neither ashamed of what they have already done, nor held in awe by the apparent determination of the authorities to secure a fair trial for another Negro, who is charged with a quadruple murder. The demonstrations which have been made have been so threatening that the Maryland Court of Appeals, while refusing to order a change of venue, has expressed the belief that a fair trial

cannot be held in either of the counties of the vicinage.

On the whole the vigilance of officers of the law has been commendable. They have prevented 57 lynchings, mostly in the South and saved 88 lives, principally of Negroes. In 12 of these cases, the accused persons were protected by armed force, but it was more usual to spirit them away.

Of course this showing is only relatively good. There is not a nominally civilized nation in the world that could not throw stones at the United States without any danger of having glass broken on its own premises. Comparatively, however, it may be said that progress is being made, when the whole country has as few lynchings as the yearly average of one or two states taken singly, from 1889 to 1929.

HARTFORD, CONN.

COURANT

DEC 31 1931

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Principal Moton Publishes Statistics
For Year Now Closed

To the Editor of The Courant:—

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were thirteen persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number twenty-one for 1930, three more than the number ten for 1929, two more than the number eleven for 1928, and three less than the number sixteen for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western States and fifty in Southern States. In forty-five of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the twelve other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of eighty-eight persons, eighteen whites, sixteen men and two women, and seventy Negro men, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the thirteen persons lynched, one was white, twelve were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, three.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

R. R. MOTON.

MACON, GA.
NEWS

3560

JAN 2 1932

Lynchings in 1931

Tuskegee institute's annual figures on lynchings in the United States have just been issued for 1931. They show that thirteen persons, one white man and twelve Negroes, were executed by mobs during the past twelve months. This compares with 21 lynchings in 1930, ten in 1929, eleven in 1928 and sixteen in 1927.

Seven of the 1931 lynchings' victims were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two were on bail. Of the thirteen mob victims, therefore, ten were actually or technically in the hands of the law, awaiting trial and punishment for their offense. This is bad. However, the Tuskegee statistics show that there were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these repulses occurred in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In twelve instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. In the other cases, removal, augmented guard or other precaution was sufficient. A total of 88 persons were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs during the year, seventy of them Negroes and the others whites.

This is most encouraging. It shows that there is an ability and a desire on the part of many law officers to curb the mob murders which have disgraced the South for so long. The report of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynchings shows that the past year's record for diligence and courage on the part of law officers is the best since 1822, when 58 lynchings were prevented.

The crimes charged to the mob victims of last year were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding men, 3. This substantiates the now generally recognized claim that the "chivalry" of a lynching mob is largely imaginary and that lynching is not to be excused on the ground that it is necessary for the protection of southern womanhood.

With that mask stripped from the face of Judge Lynch, we begin to make progress in coping with this form of lawlessness. When public sentiment becomes so aroused against mob murder that indictments and convictions of lynchings may be expected with reasonable certainty, this outdoor sport will go into a swift and permanent decline.

DEC 29 1931 FEWER LYNCHINGS IN COUNTRY DURING '31

The number of people lynched in this country for 1931 dropped with other things, in the so-called depression, according to figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

The number in 1931 was 13, and this was 8 less than in 1930, but it is three more than 1929 the peak year, all of which shows that prosperity and depression has nothing to do with the number of mob lynchings the country has.

Ten of the persons lynched this year were taken from the hands of the law, seven were taken from jails, two had been released on bail and one was taken from a hospital. The body of only one victim was burned.

There were 57 instances where officers of the law prevented lynchings and 50 of these were in the Southern states. A total of 88, 18 whites, 16 men and two women and 70 Negro men were thus saved from mob violence.

Of the 13 lynched one was white and 12 were Negroes. The lynchings by states were: Alabama 1, Florida 2, Louisiana 1, Maryland 1, Mississippi 3, Missouri 1, North Dakota 1, Tennessee 1, West Virginia 2.

WALTHAM, MASS.

NEWS-TRIBUNE

DEC 29 1931

Lynching in 1931.

Principal Robert R. Moton of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, in his record of lynching, prepared annually, states that the number in 1931 was thirteen, eight less than in 1930 when a high mark for several years was reached, but two more than in 1928 and three more than in 1929. Seven of the lynchings were in the extreme southern states, Alabama one, Florida two, Louisiana one and Mississippi three; five in the border states, Maryland one, Missouri one, Tennessee one and West Virginia two. North Dakota was the only northern state contributing to the record, with one.

In fifty-seven instances officers of the law prevented the death of prisoners at the hands of the mob. The most encouraging feature of the grim report is that fifty of

these were in the South where it is evident that the sentiment in favor of letting the law take its course is gaining. On the other hand, Maryland, a state whose record in this respect has been clean for several years, is included among the states which have been unable to protect those they have accused of crime. It is possible that we are gradually becoming civilized.

AMERICAN

DEC 31 1931

13 LYNCHINGS IN 1931

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928 and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama 1, Florida 2, Louisiana 1, Maryland 1, Mississippi 3, Missouri 1, North Dakota 1, Tennessee 1, West Virginia 2.

Chatsworth, Ga., Times

Thursday, December 31, 1931

13 Lynchings In 1931; Eight Less Than 1930

The records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, show that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931, according to announcement of R. R. Morton, principal of the institution. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the num-

ber 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

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Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

Chattanooga, Ga., Times

Thursday, December 31, 1931

13 Lynchings In 1931; Eight Less Than 1930

The records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, show that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931, according to announcement of R. R. Morton, principal of the institution. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

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Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida,

Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

ANNISTON, ALA.

JAN 1 1932

THE LYNCHING RECORD OF YEAR JUST ENDED

Thirteen persons were lynched last year, but 88 were saved from death at the hands of mobs, indicating that officers in most instances have been diligent in their efforts to protect prisoners in their charge. The Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, in its annual report on mob killings, points out that the number of lynchings in 1931 was eight less than the total recorded the previous year, although it represented an increase of three over the number in 1929. It was two more than the total in 1928 and three less than the number reported in 1927.

After going for a number of years without lynchings, Alabama has for two years had its record marred. One occurred in 1931, which is better than the record in this State in 1930, but Alabama can have no reason to point with pride to its record until we can once more go through the year without a death at the hands of men attempting to take the law into their hands.

Mississippi again led the list with three, while Florida and West Virginia are second with two each. Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee join Alabama with one each.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Eighteen whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 Negro men were saved from death.

The officers who have prevented lynchings are to be commended for their zeal and their example should impress others, giving them a desire to do likewise should they be placed in a similar position. In the lynchings last year, the officers were not at fault in every instance, the reports indicate, but it may have been that some of them need not have happened with proper precautions and efforts to save the prisoners from the mobs.

In addition to faithfulness on the part of officers, one other thing can be done to prevent these illegal executions and that is to create such strong public sentiment against them that mob violence will not be possible.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
Saturday, January 2, 1932

LYNCHING DECREASE IN 1931 IS SHOWN

Vigilance and efficiency by officers of the law saved 88 people from possible death at the hands of mobs during the year 1931, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. There were 13 lynchings during the year and only seven of these were taken from jails.

The records show a decrease in lynchings from the year 1930, when there were 21 lynchings. Of the number lynched, only one was a white person.

States in which lynchings occurred were: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; and West Virginia, 2.

COLUMBIA, MO.

MISSOURIAN

DEC 29 1931

MISSOURI LYNCHED ONE

Survey Shows 57 Mob Killings in 9 States During 1931

Missouri is one of the nine states in which lynchings occurred this year. Thirteen persons were lynched throughout the country which is eight fewer than in 1930. Ten of the persons lynched were supposedly protected by the law. Seven were taken from jails; one was removed from a hospital; two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned. Of the thirteen persons lynched, one was white and twelve were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, five; criminal assault, five; assault, three.

There were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in the northern and western states; fifty were in the South. A total of eighty-eight persons of which there were eighteen whites, sixteen men and two women, and seventy Negro men, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Lynchings occurred in the following states: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

Reports on, Sent Press.

13 Lynched During 1931

Of This Number 12 Were Negroes and ONE A WHITE MAN

Tuskegee Research Department Gives Facts

Tuskegee, Dec. 31—According to information just released by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute, there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. 10 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. 7 were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 7 of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 8 persons: 18 whites, 13 men and 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder; 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Va.,

THE WORK OF THE Christian Recorder LYNCHERS FOR 1931

Dear Sir:—

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928 and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. 10 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law 7 were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. 1 of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 7 of these were in Northern and Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 Negroes men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Moton,

Principal

LYNCHING IN 1931 SHOW DECREASE

Tuskegee Institute Reports 13; 8 Fewer Than In 1930

OFFICERS COURAGEOUS

Associated Negro Press Records 15 Mob Murders

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—According to the figures compiled in the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 fewer than the number 21 for 1930, three more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927.

Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 88 persons—18 whites, 16 men and 2 women; and 70 Negro men—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, three.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

CHICAGO.—The number 13, is two less than the number recorded by the Associated Negro Press. Dr. Monroe Work, director of the records and research department at Tuskegee, who is in Chicago studying for his doctorate at the University of Chicago, in an interview regarding this difference, stated that it was his policy to understate rather than to overstate in respect to lynchings and that his department never set up as a lynching any occurrence which it could not defend. There were bound to be differences of opinion, he added, as to what constitutes a lynching, and scarcely any two agencies would agree.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, explained Dr. Work, annually broadcasts a list of the lynchings, which varies from the Tuskegee list, but the N. A. A. C. P. always advises with Tuskegee before issuing its roll.

The differences between the Tuskegee list and the roll of the Associated Negro Press concern two deaths, one in Arkansas and the other in Alabama.

In the Arkansas case, John Parker, a colored man had been arrested for killing a man. A white farmer and a colored employee set out to track Parker down. They encountered him on a road in the custody of officers. The white farmer and his colored employee took Parker from the officers, carried him away and shot him to death.

The exception taken by Dr. Work in this case was that the white farmer and the Negro employee, just two persons, did not constitute a mob.

In the Alabama case, Wess Skipper, a white man, was killed by six other white men. Skipper had been accused of mistreating his wife. The six white men went to his home to punish him. Skipper was killed in the fight which ensued. Dr. Work did not have information regarding this occurrence at his disposal.

CHICAGO NEWS
Tuesday, December 29, 1931
Lynchings in 1931

THERE was a decline in the number of lynchings during 1931. An announcement by Tuskegee institute shows that in the current year we had thirteen of these major crimes against law and humanity. This is eight less than the number for 1930, but is three higher than the number for 1929.

In one respect, the record for 1931 was highly encouraging. There were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. The report of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynchings shows that this is the best record in official diligence and courage since 1822, when fifty-eight lynchings were prevented.

In the South alone, fifty lives were saved by frustration of mobs. Officials took various steps to uphold the law. In forty-five of the fifty-eight instances for the entire country, prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions were taken. In twelve instances armed force was used to repel the lynchers.

The Southern Commission's proof that lynching is not, as has been so often claimed, largely for the protection of Southern women is further substantiated. Of the thirteen lynchings in 1931, the offenses charged against the victims were in five cases, murder; in five other cases, rape and in three cases merely the wounding of persons.

We shall await detailed reports of punishment of mob members in the thirteen lynchings of 1931. The Southern Commission's findings in this regard point to one effective means of cutting down lynchings. It found that "although a few lynchers have been indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced, the courts usually deal with them in the most perfunctory fashion."

The absurd claim of chivalry in lynchings has been exploded. The courts which have been indifferent can no longer look upon this mad wave of crime with tolerance. When mob-murderers are punished, we shall no longer have thirteen lynchings in a single year in this country.

LYNCHING DECREASE

Constant 1931 IS SHOWN
Vigilance and efficiency by officers of the law saved 88 people from possible death at the hands of mobs during the year 1931, according to records compiled by the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. There were 13 lynchings during the year and only seven of these were taken from jails. The records show a decrease in lynchings from the year 1930, when there were 21 lynchings. Of the number lynched only one was a white person. States in which lynchings occurred were: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1, and West Virginia, 2.

Barnwell, S. C., People
Thursday, December 31, 1931
Lynching Record for 1931.

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee (Ala.) Institute, there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, 11 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. One of the victims hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2. Somerset, Ky. Commonwealth
Wednesday, December 30, 1931

**13 PERSONS LYNCHED
IN COUNTRY IN 1931**
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 28, '31.
Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number 21 for 1930, three more than the number 10 for 1929, two more than the number 11 for 1928, and three less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of law prevented lynchings.

Seven of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 88 persons, 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched one was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal

TUSKEGEE REPORTS ON LYNCHINGS FOR 1931

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 1—(Special to The Reporter)—According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928 and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned. 1-2-32

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida,

2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Probably the most accurate summary of the number of lynchings in the United States is that compiled by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, for that institution conforms to the more rigid interpretation of the word. Not every killing of an accused person is a lynching, for in a restricted meaning, it has to be an attack on the law as well as on the prisoner. Shooting a person seeking to avoid arrest is not a lynching, nor are other acts of summary vengeance, whether justifiable or not. Lynching consists of taking a prisoner from the hands of the law. It consists of summary vengeance without trial.

According to records compiled by Tuskegee, there were thirteen persons lynched in 1931, eight less than the number of twenty-one in 1930, and three more than the number of ten for 1929, two more than the number of eleven for 1928, and three less than the number of sixteen for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were actually in the hands of the law; seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital, where he was under arrest, and two had been released on bail. word-hung.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, a most encouraging gain. Seven of these were in Northern and Western States, and 50 in the South. In 45 of these instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In twelve instances, armed force was used to repel mob violence. A total of 88 persons; 18 white—16 men and 2 women; and 70 Negro men were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched during 1931, one was white and 12 were colored. Offenses charged were: Murder, 5; attempted criminal assault, 5; wounding man, 3.

States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State were: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

The Maryland lynching, which took place at Salisbury, on the Eastern Shore, holds the record as the most brutal, a wounded Negro under ar-

rest having been taken from a hospital and hanged, and his body burned. So far the Maryland authorities seem to have taken no steps to bring the participants in that outrage into court. In fact there have been few instances during the year where those who participated in crimes of mob violence have been arrested and convicted.

North Carolina broke up lynching in that State many years ago when it convicted those who participated in the Needleman affair, and sent to prison those who attempted to storm the Asheville jail. Virginia has had no lynching since passage of the act empowering the Governor to use all resources of the State to prosecute those taking part in such affairs. In West Virginia, it is reported that the county in which two men were lynched will be held liable for an indemnity to the families of the victims. While it may be held that this imposes an unfair burden on law-abiding taxpayers for the crimes of a disorderly element, it is noticeable that the law-abiding element has not as yet insisted that the officers of the law do their duty by arresting known members of the lynching mob.

Birmingham, Ala. News
Friday, January 1, 1932

DROP IN LYNCHINGS RECORDED FOR 1931

Only 13 Killed During Year As
Compared With 21 Put To
Death During 1930

Lynchings in the United States in 1931 showed a decrease from 1930, according to figures compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. The totals for the two years are, 13 in 1931 and 21 in 1930. The total for 1929 was 10, for 1928, 11, and for 1927, 16.

Of the total in 1931, according to the Tuskegee figures, 10 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. In 57 instances, officers prevented lynchings, the report states, seven of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. A total of 88 persons, 18 whites, 16 men and two women; and 70 negro men were thus saved.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes. The lynchings were divided by states as follows: Mississippi, three; Florida, two; West Virginia, two; Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, North Dakota, Missouri and Tennessee, one each. Hones Path, S. C. Chronicle
Thursday, December 31, 1931

Lynching Record Given For All States In 1931

The following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931 has been compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for colored at Tuskegee, Ala.:

There were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number 21 for 1930, three more than the number 10 for 1929, two more than the number 11 for 1928, and three less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, three.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on Sent Press
Oklahoma City, Okla.
OKLAHOMAN

DEC 29 1931

Lynching in 1931

THIRTEEN lynchings in nine states is the record for 1931. There was only one lynching in each of the states of Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee. Florida and West Virginia had two each. Mississippi led with three.

The total number of lynchings for the year was eight less than the number for 1930, but it was three more than the number for 1929. It was nearly two less than the average for the past five years. Five of the victims were accused of murder, five of criminal assault, and three of wounding men.

Twelve of the 13 mob murders were charged against the south, the single exception being in North Dakota up against the Canadian line. But one of those given a southern location took place in northern Missouri near the Iowa boundary.

During the year there were 57 instances in which prisoners were saved from mobs by determined officers, a total of 88 lives being saved in this way. Seven of these instances were in the north or west and 50 in the south. Among those saved from death were two white women. Had it not been for the vigilance of officers, the country would have had 101 mob murders instead of 13. And had all officers been sufficiently resolute, there would have been only three mob murders instead of 13, for of the 13 killed 10 were taken from the custody of officers.

The record for 1931 is written, but what will the 1932 record be? As a new year opens it is an auspicious time for governors of states and local peace officers to resolve that no mob murders shall disgrace 1932. Determined officers can end this national shame completely. There are no lynchings where the people are determined to support their officers and where the officers are determined to do their duty.

WINTER HAVEN, FLA.

CHIEF

JAN 1 1932

LYNCHINGS IN 1931 CUT BY 35 PERCENT

13 Victims of Mobs Compared to 21 in 1930

MOTON GIVES DATA

Mississippi Led With 3
57 Lynchings Were Prevented

Lynchings in the United States decreased by more than 35 percent in 1931 as compared with 1930, the number for the year just closing being 13 as compared with 21 last year, it was announced today by Major Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala. This was 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 1.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.
EXPONENT

DEC 30 1931

Public Forum

LYNCHING RECORD

Editor, Exponent:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number 21 for 1930, three more than the number 10 for 1929, two more than the number 11 for 1928, and three less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute,
Tuskegee, Ala.

NEW HAVEN, CONN.
JOURNAL COURIER

JAN 2 1932

LYNCHINGS IN 1931

To the Editor of the Forum:
Sir:—I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute,
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, December 29.

Press
Rankato, Minn.

DEC 31 1931

For Lynchings In 1931

There is reason for a large measure of satisfaction in the report of the Tuskegee Institute on the number of lynchings in the United States for the year 1931 as compared with 1930. The past year there were but 13 persons lynched, as compared with 21 during the previous year, a decrease of eight. This record is the more remarkable in

3562

a period of depression when unemployment is more general and sources of friction between whites and blacks more likely to be irritating.

Commenting on the lynchings for the past and previous years a bulletin from the Tuskegee Institute says:

"There were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. 10 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. 7 were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. 1 of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

"There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 7 of these were in Northern and Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

WATERTOWN, N. Y.
TIMES
DEC 29 1931

13 Lynched in 1931.

To The Times:
I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number 21 for 1930, three more than the number ten for 1929, two more than the number eleven for 1928, and three less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynch-

ed were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the twelve other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and twelve were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, three.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

Robert R. Morton, Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, Dec 31, 1931.

Republic
PHOENIX
ARIZONA
ISSUE OF

JAN 2 1932

Records Show 13 Lynchings

Thirteen lynchings occurred in the United States during 1931, blemishing the records of nine separate states, according to records compiled at the Tuskegee Institute for the training of colored young men and women at Tuskegee, Ala.

Arizona was not included in the list of states in which lynchings or attempted lynchings occurred during the year.

States in which they took place and the number in each were: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

Lynchings occurred in the country during 1931 numbered eight less than in 1930. There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings in 1931.

Of the persons lynched in 1931, one was white and 12 were colored men.

Delaware, Cal., New York
Thursday, January 7, 1932

13 Lynchings In 1931; Eight Less Than 1930

The records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, show that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931, according to announcement of R. R. Morton, principal of the institution. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 7 of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

STAR

JAN 4 1932

REPORT ON LYNCHING

The annual Tuskegee Institute report on lynchings reveals nothing more significant than that the high water mark of 1930 was merely temporary increase not supported by the decline noted in 1931.

The latest report shows that the gradual decline of mob outrages in recent years is still in progress and admits room for hope that the practice may eventually vanish entirely. Notable on the current record are the number of near-lynchings averted by officers particularly in the south, indicative of the steady change in sentiment toward lynching.

TIMES

Montclair, N. J.

DEC 29 1931

1931 LYNCHING RECORD.

To the Editor of the Times: Sir— I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were thirteen persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number twenty-one for 1930, three more than the number ten for 1929, two more than the number eleven for 1928, and three less than

the number sixteen for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and fifty in southern states. In forty-five of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the twelve other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchings. A total of eighty-eight persons, eighteen whites, sixteen men and two women, and seventy Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the thirteen lynched, one was white and twelve were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, three.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; and West Virginia, two.

R. R. MOTON.
Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala., December 23, 1931.

CONCORD, N. C.
TRIBUNE

JAN 4 1932

ANY IS TOO MANY BUT THE TREND WAS HOPEFUL.

Any lynching is just that many too many but the report of Dr. Moton, head of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, showing a decrease of 8 during the year as compared with 1930 is encouraging. Thirteen were reported for the year, as compared with 21 in 1930, a drop of eight; three more than in 1929; two more than in 1928; and three less than in 1927.

Again the State of North Carolina kept her record clean, and the States in which lynchings occurred are given as Alabama 1; Florida 2; Louisiana 1; Maryland 1; Mississippi 3; Missouri 1; North Dakota 1; Tennessee 1; West Virginia 2. All were in the South except one.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 2. Ten of the victims were in the hands of the law; seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western States and 50 in southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons; 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Acworth, Ga., Post
Thursday, January 7, 1932

13 Lynchings In 1931; Eight Less Than 1930

The records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, show that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931, according to announcement of R. R. Morton, principal of the institution. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

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states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

Tuskegee Reports 13 Lynchings For 1931

13 LYNCHED IN 1931

CHICAGO, Dec. 31—(ANP)—According to the report of the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute, there were thirteen lynchings in the United States during the year 1931, or eight less than for 1930, for which 21 were reported.

The number thirteen is two less than that of 15 reported by the Associated Negro Press. Dr. Monroe Work, director of the records and research department at Tuskegee, who is in this city studying for his doctorate at the University of Chicago, in an interview regarding this difference stated that it was his policy to understate rather than to overstate in respect to lynchings and that his department never set up as a lynching any occurrence which it could not defend. There were bound to be differences of opinion, he added, as to what constitutes a lynching, and scarcely any two agencies would agree.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, explained Dr. Work, annually broadcasts a list of the lynchings, which varies from the Tuskegee list, but the N. A. A. C. P. always advises with Tuskegee before issuing its roll. The differences between the Tuskegee list and the roll of the Associated Negro Press concern two deaths—one in Arkansas and the other in Alabama.

In the Arkansas case, John Parker, a colored man, had been arrested for killing a man. A white farmer and a colored employe set out to track Parker down. They encountered him on a road in the custody of officers. The white farmer and his colored employe took Parker from the officers, carried him away and shot him to death.

The exception taken by Dr. Work in this case was that the white farmer and the Negro employe—just two persons—did not constitute a mob.

In the Alabama case Wess Skipper, a white man, was killed by six other white men. Skipper had been accused of mistreating his wife. The six white men went to his home to punish him. Skipper was killed in the fight which ensued.

Dr. Work did not have information regarding this occurrence at his disposal.

HOUSTON, TEX.

POST DISPATCH

DEC 28 1931

Judge Lynch Declines

OF ALL the records hung up by the turbulent old year of 1931, now making ready for his retreat into the shadows of history, not the least gratifying to contemplate is that of lynchings.

In this barbarous practice Texas has a clean slate for the year, and the statistics show eight less mob murders for 1931 than were perpetrated during 1930 throughout the Nation. At that, however, 13 human beings were lynched this year—a ghastly commentary upon regard for constituted law.

Ten of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, and but for the vigilance and armed resistance of officers 57 more would have been mobbed.

One of the year's black deeds of Judge Lynch is chargeable to North Dakota, one to Missouri, one to Maryland, one to Tennessee. The others occurred in the "deep" South: Mississippi, 3; West Virginia, 2; Florida, 2; Alabama, 1; Louisiana, 1.

The offenses charged were: Murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3. Of course, the great majority of the victims were negroes—all but one, in fact.

Lynching negroes is a hangover from the dark days of Reconstruction, when white Southerners, entirely deprived of civil law rights by the system of military "carpetbag" government fastened upon them by Thaddeus Stevens, found it necessary to resort to summary clandestine law in order to protect their homes and families. Ever since the impression has lingered among some men that mob law is justified in cases of black crimes by black people.

However, the retributive Ku Klux Klan would never have ridden in the dark '60s and '70s had there been just legal protection. And now, with adequate courts everywhere in which any person may obtain a fair trial, no matter what his crime, no justification or excuse remains for any lynching.

Mob rule is one of the blackest blots on the 'scutcheon of the South, in the eyes of the North. Every Southern lynching somehow seems to chafe the old wounds of the Civil war, and to carry the impression North that the South is not yet wholly reconstructed or civilized.

Not until the South ceases to be known as a land of lynchings will the North cease to withhold in a measure its respect and its forces of development and wealth from the Southland. For these reasons, not to mention the utter

wrongness of such acts, it is to be devoutly hoped that next year's record will show a still greater improvement.

LYNCHING

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. 10 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. 7 were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. 1 of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these were in Northern and Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repeal the would be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charges were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 11; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

NEW YORK MIRROR

JAN 2 1932

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—Lynchings dropped by almost one-half in the United States during 1931, compared with the previous year, the Tuskegee institute announced today.

NEWARK, N. J.
STAR-EAGLE

DEC 31 1931

The 1931 Lynching Record

During the year there were thirteen lynchings in the United States. This is a decrease of eight from the twenty one lynchings in 1930.

The decline for the year is hardly proof that lynching is dying out, because the 1931 figure exceeds the number of lynchings in 1929 by three and is two more than took place in 1928.

According to records compiled by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, which was founded by that great

3563

Negro leader, Booker T. Washington, the States where these mob blights on the decency of lawful citizenry took place were Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2, and North Dakota, 1.

It is pointed out that where precautions were taken eighty-eight persons, including eighteen whites and seventy Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. There have been too many instances of officers of the law, sworn to do their duty, turning their backs on the acts of mobs, or weakly submitting, either through fear or through friendliness for the intent of lawless elements.

So far the South has a large corner on the lynching business. But such lawless, unpardonable acts of the mob take place all too frequently above the Mason-Dixon line.

Evidently we have a long way to go before this civilization of ours reaches the ideal.

PORTLAND, ME.

PRESS HERALD

JAN 3 1932

THERE WAS A FALLING OFF in the lynchings during the year just passed according to the records kept by the Tuskegee Institution. But if the lynchings were not quite as busy as they were in 1930, they were a bit more active than in the years 1929 and 1928. According to the Institute figures there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number 21 for 1930, three more than the number 10 for 1929, two more than the number 11 for 1928, and three less than the number 16 for 1927.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western States, and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, three.

All the lynchings were in Southern States except one in North Dakota.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

EXPRESS

DEC 28 1931

RESPONSIBILITY FOR MOB VIOLENCE

Organized in Atlanta a year ago last November, the Association of Southern Women for Prevention of Lynching has reason to be pleased with the

way of creating the needful sentiment than by enlisting every community's women leaders in this movement.

HARTFORD, CONN.

TIMES

JAN 3 1932

EVIDENCE OF MOB RULE.

The annual statistics which Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute compiled with regard to lynchings in this country are in the main encouraging for 1931, but still leave room for considerable improvement in removing a national disgrace. There were thirteen persons lynched during the past year which was eight fewer than in 1930, three more than in 1929 and two more than three years ago. All but one of the victims were Negroes. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law, seven being taken from jails, one from a hospital and two being seized while out on bail. In favorable contrast with this disgraceful evidence of mob rule is the fact that there were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. On twelve occasions it was necessary to resist the mob by force of arms.

The Association's declaration at the very outset of the movement—disavowing that the lynch-murderer is "the protector of Southern womanhood"—made a deep, lasting impression on the public mind. In some threatened lynchings, the earnest plea for ordered justice as offering the only real protection to the weak and helpless, doubtless produced a deterring effect. Certainly that pronouncement is a continual source of strength to the law officer in resisting the mob.

Therefore, it is gratifying that the Association—at its recent annual meeting—should have laid plans to take the organization into every county throughout the South. Such a program has great possibilities: It embodies the principle underlying the Dyer Federal anti-lynching bill—which, notwithstanding the defeat of that measure, is sound doctrine—community responsibility for mob outrages. As the women reasserted in their lately-adopted resolutions:

"Lynching is not alone the crime of ignorant and irresponsible mobs; every citizen who condones it, even by his silence, must accept a share of its guilt."

Then the Association's problem is to arouse all decent citizens—men and women alike—to such a sense of responsibility. To accomplish that end would be to loose a powerful force which would deter the mob, prod the timorous official into preventive action—or else bring about the speedy punishment of supine law officer and mob-participant alike.

Surely there is no more effective

law at the time. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented possible lynchings. Fifty of these cases were in the southern states.

In 12 instances armed forces were used to repel the lynchings. Two women were among those who were saved by guards.

Of the 13 people lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes.

The states in which the lynchings occurred were: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; North Dakota, 1; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.
JOURNAL

DEC 28 1931

THE LYNCHING RECORD
(Charlotte Observer)

Dr. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, is forward with his lynching data for 1931, with record of only 13, this being eight less than for 1930; three more than in 1929; two more than for 1928 and three less than for 1927. Ten of the victims were in the hands of the law; seven were taken from jails; one from a hospital, and two had been released on bail. There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2. North Carolina's skirts continue clear.

TUSKEGEE REPORTS 13

LYNCHINGS PAST YEAR

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 6. — Lynchings in the United States in 1931 showed a decrease from 1930 according to figures compiled by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. The totals for the two years are, 13 in 1931 and 21 in 1930. The total for 1929 was 10, for 1928, 11, and for 1927, 16.

Of the total in 1931, according to the Tuskegee figures, 10 of the persons lynched were taken from the law, seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. In 57 instances, officers prevented lynchings, the report states, seven

RECORD
LOS ANGELES CAL
DEC 29 1931

LYNCHINGS IN U. S. ON DECLINE

Drop From 21 in 1930 to 13 in 1931, Figures Show

Lynchings in the United States declined from 21 in 1930 to 13 during 1931, according to figures released today by Tuskegee institute. The report said that 10 of the men lynched were in the hands of the

of these were in Northern and Western states and 50 in Southern states. A total of 88 persons, 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 colored men were thus saved. Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were Negroes. The lynchings were divided by states as follows: Mississippi, three; Florida, two; West Virginia, two; Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, North Dakota, Missouri and Tennessee, one each.

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

MOBILE, ALA.

REGISTER

JAN 2 1932

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1931

The lynching record for 1931 showed an improvement in comparison with the immediately preceding year, according to the record compiled by Tuskegee Institute, which is accepted as one of the most dependable reports annually made on the subject of lynching. The principal of Tuskegee, Robert R. Moton, has sent to the press the following analysis of the 1931 lynching record:

I find, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law, seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital, and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western states and fifty in Southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and two women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the thirteen persons lynched, one was white and twelve were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, three.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

While this record is not as good as it ought to be, for we ought not to have lynchings at all so long as we have laws and officials to enforce laws, at the same time it is a good showing for the year and will encourage the hope that 1932 may witness a still further decrease in this particular form of violence in all parts of the country.

MIAMI, FLA.

NEWS

JAN 9 1932

Lynching

In the mass of statistical reports that mark the turn of a year there is one which always occasions a great deal of thought—the lynching record. There were 13 such tragedies in 1931. This was a marked improvement over 1930, when 21 occurred. It came close to the low mark of 10 in 1929. Yet as long as a single lynching is recorded, the campaign against these crimes cannot be relaxed. The movements launched in recent years are encouraging evidence of an aroused public opinion which will not down as long as the evil exists.

Eminent citizens of the South, educators, journalists and others, organized some time ago an agency for the painstaking investigation of every lynching, the causes surrounding it, the innocence or guilt of the victim and the effort or lack of it to bring the perpetrators to justice. Thus far they have established, to their own satisfaction at least, the innocence of a number of the unfortunates who were done to death, and grave doubt about the guilt of some others. Their study has shown the relation between lynching and ignorance and poverty.

Another group working toward the same end is the Association of Southern Women for Prevention of Lynching. In existence a year last November, it has reasons to be encouraged, first by the improved showing of 1931 as compared with the previous year, and second because of the prospects for further progress. At the very start it spiked the deadly myth that the lynch-murderer is "the protector of Southern womanhood." It has made earnest pleas for ordered justice as the only real protection to the weak and helpless.

At its annual meeting recently this association announced its plans to spread the organization into every county of the South. "Lynching is not alone the crime of ignorant and irresponsible mobs," the resolution reads. "Every citizen who condones it, even by his silence, must accept a share of its guilt. Community responsibility for mob outrages was the underlying principle of the defeated Dyer Federal anti-lynching bill. The association can do much to spread the doctrine.

Rarely if ever are the ringleaders of a mob or any of its members brought to book for their crime or punished for it. For every sheriff's wife who tells a blood-thirsty crowd that it will get the law's prisoner only over her dead body, and routs the mob, as happened in one case last year, there are too many instances in which the mob gets its man with little resistance. One recalls the doughty Texas sheriff who cowed a mob by dropping its leader with a right to the jaw, but the inexplicable spectacle of a mob filtering unmolested through a guard of troopers equipped with machine guns is more characteristic. Such things do not happen in the small communities where lynchings ordinarily take place, one imagines, without a fair idea among the inhabitants generally of what is going on. It is up to the law-abiding element of the citizenship, then, to assume responsibility and call to account both mob participants and lax officials. If the association can accomplish its purposes, the blot in time may be wiped out altogether.

YOUNGSTOWN, O.

VINDICATOR

JAN 2 1932

Facing Mobs with Courage

The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama has just issued its report of the lynchings during the year, which shows that 57 men sought by mobs bent upon lynching were saved by prison wardens or sheriffs and deputies who had the courage to uphold the law in face of threats. The number is 17 greater than last year and much above the average for ten years.

In the year there were 13 lynchings, eight less than last year and about a fifth of the number ten years ago. The majority of the year's lynchings were in the South. There was one case in North Dakota and two in West Virginia, where two men are in jail awaiting trial for complicity in the mob murders.

The decrease in the number of lynchings during the decade and the frustration this year of the largest number of attempts are a victory for the forces which have worked continuously against a crime that has been a blot upon the country.

Chattanooga, Tenn.

NEWS

DEC 29 1931

Lynchings in 1931

THERE was a decline in the number of lynchings during 1931. An announcement by Tuskegee institute shows that in the current year we had thirteen of these major crimes against law and humanity. This is eight less than the number for 1930, but is three higher than the number for 1929.

In one respect, the record for 1931 was highly encouraging. There were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. The report of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynchings shows that this is the best record in official diligence and courage since 1822, when fifty-eight lynchings were prevented.

In the South alone, fifty lives were saved by frustration of mobs. Officials took various steps to uphold the law. In forty-five of the fifty-eight instances for the entire country, prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions were taken. In twelve instances armed force was used to repel the lynchers.

The Southern Commission's proof that lynching is not, as has been so often claimed, largely for the protection of Southern women is further substantiated. Of the thirteen lynchings in 1931, the offenses charged against the victims were in five cases, murder; in five other cases, rape and in three cases merely the wounding of persons.

We shall await detailed reports of punishment of mob members in the thirteen lynchings of 1931. The Southern Commission's findings in this regard point to one effective means of cutting down lynchings. It found that "although a few lynch-ers have been indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced, the courts usually deal with them in the most

perfunctory fashion."

The absurd claim of chivalry in lynchings has been exploded. The courts which have been indifferent can no longer look upon this mad wave of crime with tolerance. When mob-murderers are punished, we shall no longer have thirteen lynchings in a single year in this country.

NEWS

Jackson, Miss.

DEC 28 1931

LYNCHING RECORD IS MUCH LOWER

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the number 21 for 1930, three more than the number 10 for 1929, two more than the number 11 for 1928, and three less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynch-ers. A total of 88 persons, 18 whites 16 men and two women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, one was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama 1, Florida 2, Louisiana 1, Maryland 1, Mississippi 3, Missouri 1, North Dakota 1, Tennessee 1, West Virginia 2.

STAR
Marquette, Miss.
DEC 29 1931

LYNCHINGS DECREASE IN THE SOUTH: REPORT

Editor Eagle-Star: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1931. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8 less than the 21 for 1930, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. 10 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. 7 were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. 1 of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 7 of these were in Northern and Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Institute,
Alabama.

MOBILE, ALA.
REGISTER

JAN 2 1932
MOB DEATHS DECLINE

Negro Institute Files Reveal Thirteen Persons Lynched Last Year
TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1. — (AP) — Tuskegee Institute records show that 13 persons were lynched last year compared with 21 in 1930.

Seven victims of mobs were taken from jails, one from a hospital cot and two were free on bail. One man was burned after being hanged.

Officers prevented lynchings in 57 cases, 50 of which were in the south. In 12 of these cases, armed forces were used to protect the prisoners.

Twelve negroes and one white man were lynched. Five were charged with murder, five with attempted assault and three with wounding men. The lynchings by states follow: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
EVE. POST

JAN 4 1932

The Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee University show there were 13 lynchings in the United States the past year, 8 less than the year before, 3 more than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928, and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states, and 50 in southern states. In 45 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2 women, and 70 negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 5; attempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2.

CITIZEN
Dalton, Ga.
DEC 31 1931

The Lynching Record is Better

The lynching record for the year 1931 is better than it was last year. In fact it is 100 per cent, or perfect, in Georgia. That is something for which to be truly thankful.

In a letter from Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, we are advised that there were thirteen persons lynched in 1931. This is eight less than the number twenty-one for 1930, three more than the number ten for 1929, two more than the number eleven for 1928, and three less than the number sixteen for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law.

Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in northern and western states and fifty in southern states. In forty-five of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the twelve other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of eighty-eight persons: eighteen white, sixteen men and two women, and seventy negro men were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the thirteen persons lynched, one was white and twelve were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding man, three.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

ST. PAUL, MINN.
NEWS

JAN 4 1932

Preventing 57 Lynchings

Records made public for 1931 by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute show that there were 13 lynchings in the United States.

The number compares to 21 for 1930, 10 for 1929, 11 for 1928 and 16 for 1927, indicating an average activity but a great statistical improvement over 1930.

A far more reassuring fact is reported by the institute. It is that on 57 occasions officers of the law prevented lynchings. While an attempt at this kind of mob violence is as bad almost as a lynching itself, the fact that the officers of the law are functioning is a distinct gain for order and proper judicial process.

It was not so long ago that the officers winked at the business. Growing public sentiment, particularly in the south, has made them assume and exercise their responsibilities.

This can be laid entirely to the persistent efforts of those who are fighting by every means—especially full publicity—this shameful American barbarity.

Friday, January 8, 1932

THIRTEEN LYNCHINGS WERE RECORDED FOR YEAR 1931

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—Thirteen persons were lynched in the United States during 1931, eight less than met death during the preceding year at the hands of mobs, Tuskegee Institute announced in its annual report.

The institute records showed 10 lynchings in 1929, 11 in 1928, and 16 in 1927.

HUGO, OKLA.
NEWS

DEC 29 1931

LYNCHING IN 1931

Thirteen lynchings in nine states is the record for 1931. There was only one lynching in each of the states of Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee. Florida and West Virginia had two each. Mississippi led with three.

The total number of lynchings for the year was eight less than the number for 1930, but it was three more than the number for 1929. It was nearly two less than the average for the past five years. Five of the victims were accused of murder, five of criminal assault, and three of wounding men.

Twelve of the 13 mob murders were charged against the south, the single exception being in North Dakota up against the Canadian line. But one of those given a southern location took place in northern Missouri near the Iowa boundary.

During the year there were 57 instances in which prisoners were saved from mobs by determined officers, a total of 88 lives being saved in this way. Seven of these instances were in the north or west and 50 in the south. Among those saved from death were two white women. Had it not been for the vigilance of officers, the country would have had 101 mob murders instead of 13. And had all officers been sufficiently resolute, there would have been only three mob murders instead of 13, for of the 13 killed 10 were taken from the custody of officers.

The record for 1931 is written, but what will the 1932 record be? As a new year opens it is an auspicious time for governors of states and local peace officers to resolve that no mob murders shall disgrace 1932. Determined officers can end this national shame completely. There are no lynchings where the people are determined to support their officers and where the officers are determined to do the duty—Oklahoman.

One white man and 12 negroes were among the lynching victims recorded. Five were charged with murder, five with attempted assault on women, and three with wounding men.

By states, the 1931 lynchings were reported as follows: Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana, one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three; Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Tennessee, one; West Virginia, two.

PLAINFIELD N. J. NEWS
FEBRUARY 16, 1932

113
JANUARY 1, 1932
BRYAN TEX EAGLE
MONTGOMERY (ALA.) JOURNAL
Monday, January 4, 1932
KANSAS CITY PRESS
FEB. 12, 1932
F17
LYNCHING (Virgins) ADVANCE
Wednesday, January 6, 1932
Washington C. H. O., Record-Repub.
Tuesday, February 2, 1932
F18
JANUARY 1, 1932
LOUIS MO. POST-DISPATCH
FEB. 13, 1932
MANHATTAN KANS. TRIBUNE
FEB. 4, 1932
JANUARY 8, 1932
SULPHUR SPRINGS TEX. ECHO
LAFAYETTE (Louisiana) TRIBUNE
Thursday, January 7, 1932
J12
SULPHUR SPRINGS TEX. NEWSTEL
Monday, January 4, 1932
SAN ANTONIO, TEX. EXPRESS
JAN. 9, 1932
JAN. 20, 1932
J26
KEY WEST FLA. SUN
JAN. 23, 1932
NASHVILLE TENN. BANNER
FEB. 11, 1932
F19
NEW LONDON (Connecticut) DAY
Wednesday, January 6, 1932
DERRY (N. H.) ENTERPRISE
Wednesday, January 6, 1932
BIRMINGHAM (ALA.) AGE-HERALD
Wednesday, January 6, 1932
JANUARY 3, 1932
WICHITA FALLS TEX TIMES
COLUMBIA, TENN., HERALD
JAN. 7, 1932
J13

Lynchings-1931

Reports on, Sent Press.

ONLY BURNING BY
LYNCHERS TOOK
PLACE HERE

Tuskegee Records Show
12 Other Mob Out-
rages During 1931.

57 SAVED FROM
FURY OF MOBS

Eighteen Whites Res-
cued by Officers of Law

TUSKEGEE, Ala. — Thirteen per-
sons were lynched in 1931, according
to Tuskegee records, but the only
burning by a mob took place in
Maryland.

In a public statement, Dr. R. R.
Moton said:

"The 13 lynchings in 1931 is 8 less
than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more
than the number 10 for 1929, 2 more
than the number 11 for 1928, and 3
less than the number 16 for 1927. Ten
of the persons lynched were in the
hands of the law; 7 were taken from
jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had
been released on bail; one of the vic-
tims was hanged and his body

1931 Lynching Record
Eight Less Than 1930

In a statement showing the num-
ber of lynchings during 1931, from
figures compiled by the Department
of Records and Research of Tuske-
gee Institute, Dr. Robert R. Moton,
principal, states that the total num-
ber was 13, or 8 less than in 1930.

Ten of the persons lynched were
in hands of the law—seven were
taken from jails and two had been
released on bail, and another was
taken from a hospital. One was
hanged and his body burned.

In 57 cases, officers prevented
lynchings, seven in northern and

western states, and 50 in south-
ern states. In 45 cases, the prison-
ers were removed or the guard aug-
mented. In 12 other cases armed
force was used against the would-be
lynchers. 18 whites, 16 men and
two women, and 70 Negro men were
saved from mobs.

Of the 13 lynched, one was white
and 12 colored. The offenses charg-
ed were murder, 5; attempted rape,
5; wounding, man, 3.

One lynching was in Alabama;
two in Florida; one each in Louisi-
ana, Maryland, Missouri, North Da-
kota and Tennessee; three in Mis-
sissippi, and two in West Virginia.

Crime and Disaster

THE following report on the year's
lynchings in the United States
has been received from Robert
R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee
Institute:

"I send you the following informa-
tion concerning lynchings for the
year 1931. I find according to the
records compiled in the Department
of Records and Research of the Tus-
kegee Institute that there were 13
persons lynched in 1931. This is 8
less than the number 21 for 1930, 3
more than the number 10 for 1929, 2
more than the number 11 for 1928
and 3 less than the number 16 for
1927. Ten of the persons lynched
were in the hands of the law. Seven
were taken from jails, 1 from a hos-
pital and 2 had been released on bail.
One of the victims was hanged and
his body burned.

"There were 57 instances in which
officers of the law prevented lynch-
ings. Seven of these were in North-
ern and Western States and 50 in
Southern States. In 45 of the in-
stances the prisoners were removed
or the guards augmented or other
precautions taken. In the 12 other in-
stances armed force was used to re-
pel the would-be lynchings. A total of
88 persons: 18 whites, 16 men and 2
women, and 70 Negro men were thus
saved from death at the hands of
mobs.

"Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was
white and 12 were Negroes. The of-
fenses charged were: Murder, 5; at-
tempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

"The States in which lynchings oc-
curred and the number in each State
are as follows: Alabama, 1; Florida,
2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mis-
sissippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Da-
kota, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Vir-
ginia, 2."

MISSISSIPPI LEADS IN 1931 LYNCHINGS

According to the records compiled in the Depart-
ment of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Insti-
tute, there were 13 persons lynched in 1931. This is 8
less than the number 21 for 1930, 3 more than the num-
ber 10 for 1929, 2 more than the number 11 for 1928,
and 3 less than the number 16 for 1927. 10 of the per-
sons lynched were in the hands of the law. 7 were taken
from jails, 1 from a hospital and 2 had been released on
bail. 1 of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were 57 instances in which officers of the law
prevented lynchings. 7 of these were in Northern and
Western States and 50 in Southern States. In 45 of the
instances the prisoners were removed or the guards
augmented or other precautions taken. In the 12 other
instances, armed force was used to repel the would be
lynchers. A total of 88 persons, 18 whites, 16 men and
2 women and 70 Negro men were thus saved from death
at the hands of mobs.

Of the 13 persons lynched, 1 was white and 12 were
Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 5; at-
tempted rape, 5; wounding man, 3.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the
number in each state are as follows: Alabama, 1; Flori-
da, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Mis-
souri 1; North Dakota 1; Tennessee 1; West Virginia, 2.

HERALD
Athens, Ga.
JAN 3 1932

GEORGIA HAS CLEAN RECORD

So far as lynchings are concerned, Geor-
gia has a perfect record for 1931. No
lynchings occurred in this state and the
record for the United States was fifty
percent less than in 1930, according to
statistics compiled by the Tuskegee Nor-
mal and Industrial Institute, under the di-
rection of R. R. Moton, principal of that
institution.

There were fifty-seven instances in
which officers of the law prevented lynch-
ings. Seven of these were in northern and
western states and fifty in southern states.
Thirteen lynchings occurred in the United
States during the year. One was white
and twelve were negroes. The offenses
charged were: Murder, five; attempted
rape, five; wounding man, three. The
states in which the lynchings occurred and
the number in each state, are as follows:
Alabama, one; Florida, two; Louisiana,
one; Maryland, one; Mississippi, three;
Missouri, one; North Dakota, one; Ten-
nessee, one; West Virginia, two.

Georgia's record is to be commended by
all law abiding citizens. It is quite clear
that the morale of its people is improving
and that the people are becoming more
and more averse to mob violence. Or it

LYNCHING STATISTICS

(From The Birmingham Age-Herald)
Thirteen persons were lynched in
the United States last year. Principal
Moton, of Tuskegee Institute, report:
Twelve of these victims of mob viol-
ence were Negroes. The mark in
1931 was eight below the figure for
1930. Ten of the 13 lynched last year
were in the hands of the law. The
mere fact that during 12 months of
widespread unemployment and grow-
ing restlessness the number of victims
should have been materially reduced
is noteworthy in itself.

But even more important and grati-
fying is what Principal Moton has to
say about the frustration of mobs. In
57 cases, officers of the law prevent-
ed lynchings, and 50 of these were in
the South. This resulted in the pro-
tection of 88 persons, 70 of whom
were Negroes. That is a fine record,
disclosing an increased concern on
the part of the authorities for the
safety of prisoners. Back of this
concern is working, of course, an
aroused public sentiment, which be-
fore long will have virtually eliminat-
ed the evil of lynching.

NEW LONDON CONN. DAY
JANUARY 6, 1932

WATERBURY CONN. AMER.
JANUARY 6, 1932

Sumner (W.) Standard
January 1, 1932

COMMERCIAL TEX. JOURNAL
DEC. 31, 1931

COLUMBIA TENN. HERALD
JAN. 5, 1932

BIRMINGHAM ALA. AGE-HERALD
JAN. 6, 1932

SYNTHIANA KY. LOG CABIN (wk)
JAN. 1, 1932

TORRINGTON (Connecticut) REGISTER
NEW YEAR'S DAY—1932

January 2, 1932
SHREVEPORT LA JRL

WINSTON TEX. HERALD
JAN. 3, 1932

SHREVEPORT, LA. BAPTIST MESSAGE
JAN. 7, 1932

CATAVIA, N. Y. DAILY NEWS
DECEMBER 26, 1931

KNOXVILLE TENN. JOURNAL
JAN. 6, 1932

LOUISVILLE, KY. TIMES
Thursday, December 31, 1931

WALLA WALLA WASH. BULLETIN
JANUARY 3, 1932

MART. TEX. HERALD
JAN. 1, 1932

BIRMINGHAM ALA. NEWS
JAN. 6, 1932

POCATELLO, IDA. TRIBUNE
JANUARY 1, 1932

BOWLING GREEN, KY. T-JOUR
Saturday, December 26, 1931

DAY MINETTE ALA. TIMES (wk)
JAN. 14, 1932
J21
January 5, 1932
J26
JAN. 25 1932
J28
SAN ANTONIO TEX. NEWS
JAN. 4, 1932
J13
ANDALUSIA, ALA. STAR.
JAN. 12 1932
J16
BIRMINGHAM ALA. ENTERPRISE
F2
JAN. 28, 1932
J2
DENTON TEX REC CHRONICLE
WAYNE (West Virginia) NEWS
Thursday, January 7, 1932
J13

RICHMOND, IND. ITEM
Tuesday, December 29, 1931
January 2, 1932
JOOSE CREEK TEX DEM.
TUSCALOOSA, ALA., NEWS
JAN. 1, 1932
J6
ATLANTA (Georgia) CONSTITUTION
Saturday, January 2, 1932
SHELBYVILLE, ILL., UNION
Saturday, January 2, 1932
January 1, 1932
BROWNWOOD TEX BULLETIN
JACKSONVILLE FLA TIMES-UNION
Saturday, January 2, 1932
BEACON NEWS
Thursday, January 7, 1932
BARRMAN TENN. RECORD (wk)
DEC. 31, 1931

Sum
MORRISTOWN, TENN. **DEC 27 1931** J6
SNOWVILLE, TENN. JOURNAL
Friday, January 1, 1932
NASHVILLE, TENN. TENNESSEAN
JAN. 3, 1932 J7
WARSAW, IND. UNION
Saturday, January 2, 1932
NEWBURGH, N. Y. NEWS
JAN 7 - 1932
WILSON, KAS., WORLD
DEC. 23, 1931 J5
ANSONIA (Connecticut) SENTINEL
NEW YEAR'S DAY—1932
TAMPA FLA. TRIBUNE
DECEMBER 27, 1931
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., TIMES
Saturday, January 2, 1932
Odessa (Wn.) Record
January 1, 1932
December 31, 1931
SNYDER TEX TIMES
HAVRE DE GRACE MD REPUBLICAN
Saturday, January 2, 1932
MOBILE, ALA., REGISTER
JAN. 2, 1932 J1
ASBURY PARK N J EVE PRESS
JANUARY 2, 1932
SAN ANTONIO, TEX., EXPRESS
JAN. 1, 1932 J7
December 30, 1931
COUNCIL BLUFFS IA NONPAR
DAYTON, OHIO, NEWS
Wednesday, January 6, 1932
COLUMBIA, TENN., HERALD
Tuesday, January 5, 1932
NEW YORK CITY
JAN 2 1932
ST. LOUIS MO. STAR
JAN. 2, 1932
COLUMBIA, TENN., HERALD
Friday, January 1, 1932
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., PRESS
Friday, January 1, 1932
January 1, 1932
KANSAS CITY KS KANSAN
GADSDEN ALA. TIMES
JAN. 1, 1932
CHILlicothe, ILL., BULLETIN
Friday, January 1, 1932
MOBILE, ALA., REGISTER
JAN. 2, 1932 J1
STAR CITY (ARK) MEDGER
JAN. 1, 1932 J6
BEACON N. Y. NEWS
JANUARY 7, 1932
January 2, 1932
SHREVEPORT LA JRL
PITTSBURGH, PA.

TAMPA, FLA. - TRIBUNE

DEC 27 1931
CHICAGO ILL. HER & EXAM
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1932
NEWARK N. J. STAR
DECEMBER 31, 1931
NEW ORLEANS LA. STATES
JAN. 1, 1932 J5
December 26, 1931
PINE BLUFF ARK GRAPHIC
STANFORD, KY., INT. JOURNAL
Friday, January 8, 1932
Tampa, Fla. Tribune
DEC 27 1931
Boston, Mass. Transcript
JAN 5 1932
DES MOINES IOWA REGISTER
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1932.
MOBILE, ALA., NEWS-ITEM
JAN. 1, 1932 J6
MARSHALLTOWN IA TIMES REP
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1931
NEW YORK CITY MIRROR
JANUARY 2, 1932
CHARLOTTE, N. C. OBSERVER
DEC 27 1931
BATAVIA N Y NEWS
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1931.
MORRISTOWN, TENN., SUN
Thursday, December 31, 1931
PATERSON (New Jersey) CALL
Friday, December 25, 1931
GAINESVILLE, TEX., REGISTER
JAN. 1, 1932 J7
COLUMBIA, TENN., HERALD
JAN. 1, 1932 J6
ST. PAUL (MINN.) NEWS
MONDAY, JAN. 4, 1932
FRANKLIN, TENN., REVIEW-APPEAL
DEC. 31, 1931 J5
OMAHA NEBR. TRUE VOICE (wk)
JAN. 1, 1932 J5
BROWNWOOD, TEX., BULLETIN
JAN. 1, 1932 J7
HARTFORD CONN. COURANT
DECEMBER 31, 1931
SHELBYVILLE ILL UNION
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1932
PITTSBURGH (PA) POST-GAZETTE
Wednesday, December 30, 1931
JAN 1 1932
HERALD TRIBUNE
New York City
MOBILE ALA. PRESS
JAN. 2, 1932
TAMPA (Fla.) TRIBUNE
Sunday, December 27, 1931

YOUNGSTOWN, O. VINDICATOR

Saturday, January 2, 1932
FAYETTESVILLE W VA TRIB
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1931
Lowell, Mass. Courier
JAN 4 1932
VICKSBURG, MISS., POST
JAN. 4, 1932 J7
COLUMBUS OHIO STATE JOUR
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1932.
PITTSBURGH PA COURIER WKLY
SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1932.
Arcadian
(Amherst)
DEC 31 1931
FLORIDA
DATE
LOGAN (W. Virginia) DEMOCRAT
Thursday, December 31, 1931
THREE RIVERS MICH COMM'L
THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1932.
SPRINGFIELD MASS. REPUB.
JANUARY 3, 1932
JAMESTOWN POST
Friday, January 1, 1932
January 1, 1932
DUBUQUE IA TRIBUNE
January 4, 1932
DES MOINES IA REGISTER
JANUARY 3, 1932
Charlotte, N. C. OBSERVER
JAN 1 1932
BRISTOL TENN. HERALD-COURIER
DEC. 27, 1931 J2
HAMMOND, IND., TIMES
Wednesday, December 23, 1931
NEW YORK CITY REVIEW
JANUARY 2, 1932
January 2, 1932
CARTHAGE MO DEMOCRAT
YOUNGSTOWN, O. VINDICATOR
Monday, January 4, 1932
EVERGREEN ALA. COURANT (wk)
DEC. 31, 1931 J5
December 29, 1931
INDEPENDENCE KS REPRT
ALBION (New York) AMERICAN
Thursday, December 31, 1931
CENTREVILLE (Alabama) PRESS
Thursday, December 31, 1931
NEW YORK CITY HERALD-TRIB.
JANUARY 1, 1932
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, NEWS
Wednesday, January 6, 1932
LOS ANGELES CALIF.
HERALD AND EXPRESS
JANUARY 1, 1932
TUSCALOOSA, ALA., NEWS
JAN. 7, 1932 J11
BRYAN, TEX., EAGLE
JAN. 1, 1932
ODESSA, WASH. RECORD
JANUARY 1, 1932
PITTSBURGH PA COURIER WKLY
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1932.

JACKSON (MISS) NEWS

Sunday, December 27, 1931
NASHVILLE, TENN., TENN
Saturday, January 2, 1932
WATERTOWN N Y TIMES
DECEMBER 29, 1931
DAYTONA BEACH (Fla.) NEWS-JOUR.
Wednesday, December 30, 1931
WETUMPKA (ALAB) HERALD
Thursday, December 31, 1931
NEWARK (N. J.) STAR EAGLE
Thursday, December 31, 1931
St. Paul, Minn., News
SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 1932 J2
CHARLEROI PA MAIL
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1932.
ALBERTVILLE, ALA., BANNER
DEC. 31, 1931 J5
SHREVEPORT LA. JOURNAL
JAN. 2, 1932 J4
NASHVILLE TENN. BANNER
DEC. 31, 1931 J5
RALEIGH, N. C.
NEWS OBSERVER
JAN. 2, 1932 J5
ANNISTON, ALA., STAR
JAN. 1, 1932 J5
KNOXVILLE TENN. JOURNAL
JAN. 1, 1932 J5
TUSCALOOSA, ALA.
NEWS
JAN 7 1932
MEMPHIS TENN. RVNG. COMM. APPE
JAN. 1, 1932 J5
CARD CHARLES LA PRESS
JAN. 1, 1932 J4
SOUTH BEND, IND., TRIBUNE
Sunday, December 27, 1931
SHREVEPORT LA. JOURNAL
JAN. 2, 1932 J4
DAYTON, OHIO, NEWS
Saturday, January 2, 1932
BIRMINGHAM ALA. NEWS
JAN. 1, 1932
FAYETTEVILLE TENN. NEWS (wk)
DEC. 31, 1931 J5
PATERSON, N. J.
CALL
JAN 12 1932
BIRMINGHAM ALA. AGE-HERALD
JAN. 2, 1932 J6
NASHVILLE, TENN., TENNESSEAN
DEC. 29, 1931 J4

CLANTON, ALA., UNION-BANNER

DEC. 31, 1931 J5
HARRDSBURG KY. DEMOCRAT (wk)
DEC. 29, 1931 J4
PARIS, KY., NEWS
Tuesday, January 5, 1932
JOHNSON CITY, TENN., Staff-News
Monday, December 28, 1931
PLATTSBURG REPUBLICAN
Monday, December 28, 1931
MURPHYSBORO ILL IND
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1931.
FAYETTESVILLE W VA TRIB
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1931.
JOHNSON CITY, TENN., STAFF
DEC. 28, 1931 J4
LAUREL DEL. STATE REGISTER
DECEMBER 18, 1931
BRISTOL, TENN., HER.-COUR.
Sunday, December 27, 1931
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NEWS
Tuesday, December 29, 1931
JOHNSON CITY, TENN., CHRON.
Tuesday, December 29, 1931
FLORENCE, ALA., TIMES
JAN. 2, 1932 J7
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., NEWS
JAN. 1, 1932 J5
WESTMINSTER (MD) ADVOCATE
NEW YEAR'S DAY—1932
NEW HAVEN CONN COURIER
JANUARY 2, 1932
GRAND LEDGE, MICH., INDEP.
Wednesday, December 30, 1931
Jan 1 - 32
LEBANON, IND., REPORTER
Tuesday, December 29, 1931.
MARIETTA, OHIO, TIMES
Monday, December 28, 1931
PROVIDENCE, R. I. BULLETIN
DEC 25 1931
London
ROCHESTER, TENN., HERALD
JAN. 14, 1932 J20
SHELBYVILLE, TENN., GAZETTE
JAN. 7, 1932 J13
MONTICELLO, TENN., TIMES
JAN. 3, 1932 J13
WHEELING, MO., DEMOCRAT
JAN. 3, 1932 J15
WASHINGTON (D.C.) HERALD
Saturday, January 2, 1932
NEWBURGH (New York) NEWS
Thursday, January 7, 1932

EFFINGHAM ILL RECORD

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1932
East Pepperell (Mass) Press
Thursday, December 17, 1931

ROCHESTER N Y CHRONICLE

JANUARY 30, 1932

Lynchings - 1931

Side Lights Chattanooga, Tenn. NEWS

JUN 17 1931

An Outrage

A negro was kidnaped from the Huntsville jail, and it is feared he has been lynched. The circumstances of the outrage call for rigid investigation. Two men took the negro from the city jail. An "emergency call" is said to have lured all officers away from the jail to a road house, and two white men broke into the jail and spirited the negro away. The missing negro had been convicted of criminal assault.

Until the South punishes officials who permit prisoners to be turned over for murder, we may expect no end of lynchings. The Huntsville minions of the law certainly should be called upon to explain several mysterious things in connection with the latest outrage.

Negro Held For Double Slaying Is Shot In Prison

Willie Peterson Wounded
In Birmingham Jail By
Brother Of Society Girls

Guards Called Out

Dent Williams Is Released
On Bail After Shooting;
Black Sent To Hospital

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Oct. 2.—(AP)—Willie Peterson, 34-year-old negro identified two weeks ago by Miss Nell Williams as the slayer of her sister Augusta, and Jennie Wood, a companion on a mountain trail near here Aug. 4, was shot and critically wounded in the Jefferson County Jail tonight by Dent Williams, 25, the girl's brother.

One hundred National Guardsmen were mobilized and held in readiness for any emergency following the shoot-

ing which brought a sudden and startling climax to a conference attended by the negro, city and county officials and members of the Williams and Wood families.

Peterson was carried under heavy guard to the County Hospital with two bullet wounds in his chest and another in his arm. Hospital attendants said his wounds probably would prove fatal.

Williams was escorted to his home by a deputy sheriff and later was returned to the jail where he was served with a warrant charging assault with intent to murder and released under \$1,000 bond.

All Searched

Sheriff James E. Hawkins, who was present when the shooting took place, said all persons entering the jail were searched and that a gun had been taken from Williams.

He was unable to account for the weapon with which Williams, an attorney, shot the negro.

The sheriff said Williams shot the negro a moment after Miss Williams had reiterated that Peterson was the highwayman who wounded her and killed her sister and Miss Wood after holding them captive four hours on the seldom used trail near the crest of Shades Mountain.

Others present at the conference were Chief of Police Fred H. McDuff, Asst. Solicitor James M. Long, Chief Deputy Sheriff R. E. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Williams, parents of Dent and Nell Williams, Wade Wood, father of Jennie Wood, and two city detectives.

Working Up Case

The negro was returned to Birmingham yesterday from the State Penitentiary at Montgomery where he had been held for safekeeping since his arrest Sept. 23. Testimony to be presented the Grand Jury which meets Monday to investigate the case was being obtained at tonight's conference.

Sheriff Hawkins said the negro continued to maintain his innocence claiming that he was ill and unable to leave his home the day the shooting occurred. Physicians at the State Prison said the negro is suffering with tuberculosis.

Peterson was arrested after Miss Williams said she recognized him as she passed him in an automobile on a street here two weeks ago. She was en route to a cemetery with her mother and Ed Streit, a friend of the family, to place flowers on the grave of her sister when she saw the negro.

"That's the negro who shot me," she screamed and Streit stopped the machine and held the negro until officers arrived. He was carried immediately to the prison at Montgomery as a precautionary measure.

Guards At Hospital

All county and city officers were placed on duty tonight and police armed with sawed off shotguns were placed at each entrance to the hospital where the negro was carried. Streets were roped off a block each way from the hospital.

The national guardsmen were under command of Brig. Gen. John C. Persons, commander of the 167th Infantry, Alabama National Guard, after Sheriff Hawkins called upon Gov. Miller at Montgomery for additional forces.

Miss Williams said the negro jumped on the running board of their automobile on a highway three miles from the

city, and at the point of a pistol forced Miss Wood, who was driving to follow the trail which led off the main thoroughfare.

After holding the three girls, all prominent in Birmingham society, captive several hours the negro opened fire when they attempted to escape. Augusta Williams died within a few hours and Miss Wood died a few days later. Nell Williams was wounded in the arm.

Miller Issues Verbal Order For Calling Out Troops

Answering an appeal from Sheriff James F. Hawkins, of Jefferson County, for the aid of troops in preventing further disorders following the shooting in the county jail of Willie Peterson, negro, charged with the murder of three prominent Birmingham women, Gov. Miller last night got in touch immediately by long distance telephone with Gen. J. C. Persons at the latter's home in Birmingham.

In a verbal order Gov. Miller directed Gen. Persons who commands the 31st Division, National Guard, to order into service in Birmingham as many units of the Alabama National Guard as in his judgment the situation demanded. After issuing the order the Governor notified Adjt. Gen. Moon of his action. Both the Chief Executive and Gen. Moon expect to keep in close touch with developments in Birmingham as long as an emergency exists there.

DAYTON, OHIO, NEWS
Monday, August 3, 1931

URGE LYNCHERS BE PROSECUTED

NEW YORK, Aug. 3.—(AP)—The International Labor Defense made public today a telegram sent to Sheriff Young of Deleville, Ala., following an investigation by the organization into conditions in the Camp Hill section of Alabama.

The telegram sets forth that Buddy Davis, a Negro cropper, had been lynched and his body sunk in the Alabama Power Co. backwater.

Tommy Gray, the telegram said, was beaten on the head with a pistol butt, "for leaving 'sir' off 'yes sir,'" and Ralph Gray, "alive when taken from his home, was killed on his way to jail."

The telegram continued:

"We demand immediate arrest and prosecution of Burt Brown, with death penalty for murderers of Davis and Gray. International Labor Defense investigation proves no evidence against jailed members of Share Croppers' union. We demand their immediate release."

The arrests at Camp Hill, the organization said, grew out of the formation of a union among the

share-croppers to demand continuation of food allowances until settlement time, cash settlement at the end of the season, the right to sell their cotton wherever the cropper pleases and nine months' schooling for the croppers' children.

Five Men Held For Beating Up U. S. Witnesses

Houston County Citizens
Accused Of Attacking
Negroes In Loan Case

\$3,000 Bail Set

Blacks Are Subpoenaed In Trial Of Leo Espy For Obtaining Seed Money

DOTHAN, ALA., Sept. 26.—(Special)—Accused of beating two negroes in an effort to make them leave this section so that they could not testify in a seed loan defraud case in Federal Court here, five prominent white men of Ashford, 10 miles from Dothan, were arrested late today by a United States marshal.

They are V. C. Bruner, Beach Bruner, Max Bruner, W. J. King and A. C. King.

The five men were arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Beatty Whiddon and released on bonds of \$3,000 each.

The warrant on which the men were arrested at 5 p.m. today by U. S. Marshal J. A. Daughtery was sworn out by a special agent of the Federal Seed Loan Department, and charged intimidating a United States witness.

Felony Charge For Five

The offense charged to the five men is a felony under Federal statutes and is punishable by a maximum penalty of five years in prison.

The two negroes whose names are given as M. C. Phillips and Huston Phillips were subpoenaed to appear in Federal Court here next month to testify in the case of Leo Espy, prominent Houston County citizen, who was indicted by the last Federal Grand Jury in Montgomery for falsely obtaining a seed loan.

It was reported that the five Ashford men severely beat the two negroes in order to drive them out of this county.

Arrested Sept. 12

Espy, who operates a large gin at Gordo, Ala., it is said, was arrested on Sept. 12 on a bench warrant issued from the Federal Court in Montgomery charging that he falsely obtained a seed, feed and fertilizer loan of \$850 from the Government.

An agent of the Department of Justice informed the court that Espy is not engaged in farming and that in applying for the loan he was required to state that he was engaged in farming. Espy made bond of \$2,000.

Espy's trial is scheduled to come up at the next session of Federal Court in the latter part of October.

Negroes Beat Up Deputy, Escape

LIVINGSTON, ALA., Oct. 7.—(AP)—A posse of Sumter County officers, aided by bloodhounds tonight continued a search in the swamps along the Tombigbee River for three negro prisoners who escaped from the County Jail today after overpowering Deputy Sheriff W. J. Godfrey, in charge of the jail.

Circuit Court Clerk S. H. Shelby, one of a group of persons which gathered at the jail following the escape, dropped dead from a heart attack which physicians said was induced by excitement.

Early in the afternoon the prisoners were believed surrounded in a swamp but further search failed to reveal their whereabouts.

Sheriff H. C. Godfrey said the deputy sheriff was struck over the head with a blunt instrument but that he was not seriously injured. The escape occurred as the officer was taking breakfast to the prisoners in the County Jail.

White Men Drive Negro from Home

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 15.—Investigation has been started by the sheriff's office and the police department of the driving of Frank Torrence from his home at 2215 Ninth avenue south by 15 masked white men and terrorizing of others in that vicinity.

Sheriff James F. Hawkins said Tuesday that Chief Fred McDuff, of the police department, had joined with him in the investigation of the driving of Torrence from his home, in which he had lived for several years. "I am going to exert every effort to stop that sort of thing," Sheriff Hawkins declared.

Torrence was threatened with death if he did not move by Friday, although the sheriff sent deputies to guard the house Torrence had moved by Saturday. The home is situated near the white section.

Extradition Of Negro Wanted Here Delayed

LANSING, MICH., Oct. 26.—(P)—Gov. Wilbur M. Brucker today adjourned until Nov. 5, the extradition hearing for Dove Ballard, negro, charged with slaying Deputy Sheriff Charles Sims, Butler County, Ala.

State police who arrested Ballard in Calhoun County said he signed a waiver, but Gov. Brucker ruled that a hearing to determine whether Ballard knew what he signed, was necessary. Ballard's attorneys said more time was needed to secure witnesses.

GOV. BUCKNER SEEKING FACTS ON ALABAMA

LANSING, Mich., Nov. 13.—Despite the assurance of the part of Governor B. M. Miller of Alabama that Dove Ballard, charged with the murder of a white man, will be given a fair trial if returned to that state, Governor William M. Brucker of Michigan is sending a representative to the southern commonwealth to make a careful and thorough investigation before he grants the extradition.

Ballard, according to the charges, shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Charles Sims of Butler county, Alabama, and escaped to Detroit, where he was captured. The prisoner claims that the shooting was accidental. Attorney James R. Golden of Battle Creek, one of his lawyers, told the governor that if Ballard was returned to Alabama he would either be lynched or "railroaded to the chair."

Governor Miller and the sheriff of Butler county have both assured Governor Brucker that such will not be the case, but the Michigan executive, who knows something of Alabama's record, evidently looks askance at the assurances.

Governor Knows Alabama

"There is no question," said Governor Brucker, "that Ballard killed a deputy sheriff and those who commit crime should pay the penalty. Ballard must be tried in Alabama, if at all. I am not inclined to make him a free man in Michigan to become possibly a bootlegger or criminal. Michigan cannot become an asylum for criminals. I do not propose to make it a haven to which criminals would be encouraged to flee.

"However, all accused men are entitled to a fair trial. I am not disposed to dispute the word of the governor of Alabama that Ballard would get a fair trial, but the facts indicate that there should be careful inquiry. I will take extradition under advisement pending the report by the agent I am sending to Alabama.

MICHIGAN FIGHTS TO SAVE BALLARD FROM ALA. MOB

NOV 14 1931
BY RUSSELL J. CONANT
LANSING, Mich.—Action on the requisition papers for the extradition of Dove Ballard, 34, wanted for the shooting of a white deputy sheriff in Butler County, Ala., will depend on the reports of the attorney-general's office and an investigator that will be sent to Alabama to find out whether Ballard will be given a fair and impartial trial.

James R. Golden, a Battle Creek attorney, who represented the Albion branch of the N.A.A.C.P., questioned the legality of the requisition papers for the rendition of Ballard because of a clause stamped at the bottom stating that Alabama would not pay for the apprehension of the fugitive unless later convicted.

Golden declared that this clause was not inserted in requisition papers for the extradition of white fugitives. In support of his contentions, he produced a requisition paper for the extradition of Thomas Malcolm Rice, white, by the state of Alabama on December 4, 1929. The clause was omitted.

The attorney also raised the point about the validity of the affidavit that was sworn to by Sheriff J. C. Conant, who came to Lansing for the prisoner. He declared that Conant was not an eye-witness to the killing of Sims and, therefore, the affidavit was insufficient because it was predicated on hearsay.

MICHIGAN GOVERNOR RETURNS DOVE BALLARD TO ALABAMA

Governor Brucker today ordered the return of Dove Ballard to Alabama to answer to a charge of first degree murder in the killing of Charles Sims, Butler County deputy sheriff near Georgiana, Ala., Aug. 20.

Governor Brucker made his decision following a special investigation by Lieut. William Watkins, of the Michigan department of public safety, into charges that Ballard would not receive fair treatment in the Southern states. Watkins reported to the governor that Alabama will provide safe conduct and protection and a fair trial for Ballard.

In his report to Governor Brucker, Watkins presented letters from Governor Miller, of Alabama, Circuit Judge Rumble, of Greenville, Howell P. Rogers, prosecuting attorney and Herman Pride, mayor of Georgiana. "Nothing has been disclosed to

question the good faith of the governor of Alabama and other public officials who have been personally interviewed by Michigan agents and I am persuaded to the belief that respondent's fear of mob violence is not based upon substantial grounds in this instance," Governor Brucker said.

EXTRADITION OF COP KILLER TO ALA. APPROVED

DETROIT, Mich.—The first chapter in the battle to extradite Dove Ballard, 34 years of age, back to Greenville, Ala., for the shooting of a deputy sheriff, ended in a tentative victory for the defense, Monday, in Governor Wilbur M. Brucker's offices at Lansing.

The governor granted a stay of ten days on the motion of Herbert Dudley, counsel for Ballard, and then denied the submitting of a signed confession that was purported to have been Ballard's acknowledgement of the crime.

Ballard is now confined in the county jail at Marshall, Mich., where he has been since his arrest in Albion for the crime three weeks ago.

The Alabama sheriffs, in their warrant for the extradition of Ballard, set forth that he shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Simms, white, on August 20, in Georgiana, Alabama.

Trouble began when a brother of Mrs. Ballard, living in Detroit, forwarded her transportation to come and live with him.

Ballard objected to his wife leaving, refusing to permit her to remove her clothes. A fight ensued and Mrs. Ballard is alleged to have been severely beaten.

She summoned Deputy Sheriff Simms, who told Ballard to give his wife her clothes.

Ballard is alleged to have snatched a shot gun from a rack over the door. Mrs. Ballard dashed from the room with Ballard in pursuit. When he fired, the discharge tore away part of the deputy's jaw and inflicted fatal injuries. Mrs. Ballard was not injured.

Ballard escaped, making his way to Albion, Mich., where he was arrested when he revealed to some of his friends that he was wanted in Alabama on a murder charge.

The Alabama sheriff claims that the county is not going to try Ballard for the murder of the deputy, but for the attempt to kill his wife.

Attorney Dudley is making his fight on the grounds that Ballard will not receive a fair trial in Alabama. In point he mentions the recent shooting of Willie Peterson by a white man while incarcerated in the county jail.

LYNCH RECORD CITED TO HALT EXTRADITION

Michigan Governor to Review Statistics

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Nov. 6.—Hearing on the extradition proceedings instituted to return Dove Ballard to the state of Alabama to stand trial for the slaying of Deputy Sheriff Charles Sims of Greenville, Ala., Aug. 20, was set for Nov. 5 before Governor Wilbur M. Brucker, according to an announcement made here Monday by Attorney James R. Golden of defense counsel.

Ballard has repudiated a confession he made to the police on Oct. 18, asserting that statements were forced from him by threats, physical exhaustion and duress. Ballard lives in Detroit.

Attorney Herbert Dudley of Detroit, retained by relatives of the defendant, is associated with Attorney Golden, who was retained by the Albion, Mich., branch of the N. A. A. C. P.

Slaying Was Accidental

In his petition to be filed with the governor, Ballard declares he and his wife, Sebell, had quarreled because he objected to her returning to the North, and on Aug. 19 he struck her. She left home and stayed at his brother's house all night. The next day Mrs. Ballard and Deputy Sheriff Sims went where Ballard was and preceded by the woman, the officer and Dove returned to the Ballard home. Upon returning home Ballard struck his wife again, and she seized a shotgun. In his attempt to ward off a blow, Ballard seized the stock of the gun, and in the tussle for possession of the weapon, it was discharged, a volley of slugs striking Sims and fatally wounding him.

Says He'll Be Lynched

Ballard further states that realizing he would be accused of killing the deputy sheriff, and also fully aware that he would not be allowed to explain the true version, that it was purely an accident, in that he did not intend to discharge the gun at either his wife or the sheriff, but knowing he would be lynched forthwith, and while contemplating the bloody record of lynchings in the South of his people and particularly in the state of Alabama, that he became alarmed and fearful lest he be lynched, made his escape and sought safety in the state of Michigan.

Ballard also declares he firmly believes he will be lynched forthwith if he is taken back to Alabama.

Lynchings-1931

Side Lights.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
JOURNAL & TIMES

NOV 10 1931

Michigan Governor's Action Is Unjust to Alabama

The action of Gov. Wilber M. Brucker, of Michigan, in refusing to return to Alabama a negro accused of killing a deputy sheriff until a special agent of the governor could make an investigation in Alabama to determine whether the negro will get a fair trial, and to receive assurances that he would not be lynched, is not only unusual, but is a very distinct discourtesy to Governor Miller, who had promised that the offender would receive the protection of the law.

More than that. It is a serious reflection on the state, for the Michigan governor acted upon representations made by a lawyer in behalf of the Society for the Advancement of the Colored Race, who openly charged the negro would be lynched if returned to Alabama. This same society has been meddling with the courts of this state in another case, the Scottsboro case, and has spread libelous statements concerning Alabama all over the country.

Governor Brucker was not justified in accepting and acting upon the excited statement made to him by a lawyer who is paid by a society to interfere with the orderly processes of justice. When the Michigan governor had received the assurances of the governor of Alabama that the offender against the laws of this state would receive a fair trial and fair treatment on his return to the state it ought to have been accepted. That would have ended the legal and moral responsibility of the governor of Michigan, and would have shifted the responsibility to the shoulders of the governor of Alabama, where it ought to rest.

It is not the business of the governor of Michigan to deal with criminals who offend the laws of Alabama, nor is it his business to attempt to prevent a return to this state of any person who has violated the laws of Alabama and who is subject to trial, conviction and punishment in this jurisdiction.

Nor is it the business of Governor Brucker to send a special agent into this state to find out whether it will be safe to surrender to Alabama authorities a person wanted in this state for a criminal offense. It is a serious reflection on the public officials of Alabama, including the

governor who has at his command, not only an army of civil agencies, but the military arm of the state government also, for the governor has the right, and it is his duty to call out the militia whenever he thinks it necessary in order to uphold the law and protect life and property.

Governor Brucker has given the weight and influence of his official position to an unworthy cause. It is possible, too, that his course in this matter may still further encourage an organization which has been dangerously meddling with the courts in this state and in other parts of the country also. It is not safe in this country to permit outside influences to trench upon the powers and duties of officers of the law; it is extremely dangerous to permit outside influences to meddle with the cool and orderly processes of our courts.

Alabama as a state is as much devoted to the law, and to orderly processes in the administration of justice, as Michigan or any other state in the Union, and it is gravely unjust to Alabama, and to public officials in Alabama, for the governor of Michigan to assume that it is necessary for him to send an agent into this state to insure proper legal protection for a person who has violated the laws of this state. Alabama's record, we think, will compare favorably with Michigan's when it comes to upholding the law, and to the calm, orderly administration of justice.

Alabama.

3574

Lynchings-1931
Side Lights.

WOULD BE ATTACKER IS HUNTED BY POSSE

SHEFFIELD, Ala., Jan. 3.—(AP)—

Posses with track dogs today searched Colbert county for an unidentified negro charged with attempting to attack three white girls here last night and early today.

The negro, police said, entered the third home shortly after midnight and passing through a room in which the parents of one girl were sleeping, entered her room.

Police said the girl awakened to find the negro standing beside her bed and screamed despite his threats to "cut your throat if you scream."

Sheriff Heads Lynch Mob After Negro

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 13.—The

Southern Worker, Communist organ published in this city, reports that a lynch mob with bloodhounds and led by the sheriffs are on the hunt for a Negro worker in Sheffield, Ala., who is said to have attacked a white girl.

PLANTERS LYNCH TENANT FARMER

3-20-31

Flogging Mob Shoots When Resisted

DOTHAN, Ala., Feb. 19.—A white

tenant farmer who had had trouble with his landlord was shot and killed last Monday night by six masked men who had gone to his home with the expressed intention of flogging him for his resistance to the demands of the landlord.

The tenant farmer, Wess Skipper, put up a resistance and was shot by one of the men. Skipper died instantly.

The bosses' police are making a pretense of prosecuting the murderers, and six men have been arrested charged with the crime.

This is one of the countless crimes of violence against white and Negro tenant farmers and share croppers who are savagely terrorized the moment they show signs of revolt against the system of land monopoly, share cropping and tenant farming under which they are enslaved.

Young Negro Is Pursued, Clubbed

The story of how James Robinson, a young negro, was beaten by two white men and left unconscious on the lawn of an Adams Street residence where he had run crying for help came to light yesterday.

Late Thursday night Robinson rushed up the steps of a home at 523 Adams Street and frantically began to ring the door bell. To the woman that answered the ringing he cried that two white men were after him and would kill him. He asked to enter and the police,

She refused to allow him to enter but locking the door ran to telephone the police. On returning and looking through the door she saw the negro lying in the yard unconscious while two white men entered an automobile and drove away.

Detectives Davis and Meadows soon arrived and carried the negro to Hale's Hospital. He had two severe lacerations on the head and his right wrist was broken. When questioned by officers, Robinson said that the men had suddenly driven along side of him while he was returning home and had threatened to kill him. He had fled and sought refuge at the Adams Street home. Robinson said he did not know the men and had no idea why they should have attacked him. No arrests have been made.

Youths Held For Attack On Negro

Five youths were arrested last night by Officers W. A. Davis and C. R. Meadows on blanket charges of suspicion in connection with an attack on Adams Street last Thursday night in which James Robinson, negro, received a fractured wrist. The youths are Ernest Shaw, Stanley Solomon, Lomax Mosley, Woodrow Mosley and Merritt Rhodes.

According to police, the negro was attacked after he is alleged to have thrown a rock at one of the youths. He was beaten and left unconscious on the lawn of an Adams Street residence where he had run for protection.

Posse Captures Negro Charged With Slaying

CASTLEBERRY, ALA., May 21.—(AP)—Clarence Crenshaw, negro, was captured late tonight by a posse of armed citizens in charge of Deputy Sheriff Albert Moore wanted in connection with the fatal stabbing late today of John D. Barnes, farmer of near Castleberry.

Crenshaw was taken to the county jail at Evergreen. He is said by officers to have admitted the killing.

Barnes was stabbed to death at his home. Two bloodhounds were brought here from Atmore prison farm to aid in the search for Barnes's slayer.

Negro Believed Victim Of Mob

6-17-31

Huntsville Officers Fear For Safety Of Prisoner Who Was Abducted

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., June 16.—(AP)—

Search continued tonight for Thomas Jasper, 35, negro removed from the city jail early today by two unidentified white men following his conviction yesterday of disturbing a young white girl.

Madison County deputies and city officers tonight expressed the fear the negro had been carried to a lonely spot and lynched. They said no trace of the trio had been found since they departed from sight after leaving the jail.

Chief of Police H. C. Blakemore, who is directing the search, said other prisoners told him two white men entered the jail between 4:30 and 5 a.m. after an emergency call to "bring all available officers" to a roadhouse near here had been received.

Blakemore said he believed the call was placed by the men as the investigation led by E. W. Reid, night desk sergeant, revealed there were no disorders at the place. He said a lock on the rear door of the jail was broken, while the officers were away and the negro taken out before their return.

Jasper was convicted in city court yesterday on a charge of entering the girl's home on the outskirts of the city and was remanded to jail to begin working out a \$100 fine which he was unable to pay. Police said he had previously been accused of the same offense.

NEGRO IS KIDNAPED FROM ALABAMA JAIL

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., June 16.—(AP)—Sheriff Ben Giles, of Madison county, said at noon today no trace had been found of Thomas Jasper, negro, and two white men who removed him from the city jail here early today where he was held following his conviction yesterday on a charge of disturbing a young white girl in her farm home near here.

County officers who joined the search shortly after the negro was removed unnoticed from the jail by the two white men, expressed the fear that Jasper had been lynched. Entrance to the jail was gained by filing the lock from a rear door.

Police Baffled By Negro's Abduction

6-17-31

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., June 17.—(AP)—Officers were without clues today in their search for Thomas Jasper, 35, ne-

gro taken from the city jail here yesterday by two white men. The negro was beginning the first day of a sentence imposed following his conviction of disturbing a young white girl.

The searchers led by Police Chief H. C. Blakemore failed to find any trace of the trio and they still held to the belief the negro was carried into the hills north of here and lynched.

The negro was removed from the jail by the two men after E. W. Reid, night desk sergeant, reported he received an emergency call to bring all available officers to a roadhouse to quell a disturbance.

Other prisoners told officers the white men broke a lock on a rear door shortly after Reid and a squad of policemen answered the call. The call was believed to have been placed by the men who took the negro as Reid said there was no trouble at the address given.

Protest Wired In Huntsville Case

International Labor Group Demands Action; Gets Hot Retort From Officer

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., June 18.—(AP)—

Chief of Police H. C. Blakemore, of Huntsville, tonight announced receipt of a telegram from the office of the Southern District International Labor Defense in Chattanooga protesting against the "lynching" of Thomas Jasper, negro, who was spirited from the Huntsville jail Monday by two armed men, and demanding "speedy trial and execution of his murderers."

The negro was under conviction on a charge of disturbing a young white girl in her home here.

Text of the telegram received by Chief Blakemore was released as follows:

"We protest lynching Thomas Jasper and demand immediate thorough investigation, speedy trial and execution of his murderers. Police officers, deputies responsible for leaving jail unguarded, equally guilty. Cooperation of police and lynchers clear. Excuses published in press ridiculous."

Chief Blakemore said he had sent the following reply:

"Jasper not lynched but made away. Police department has done everything possible to apprehend abductors. We believe in upholding the law and resent your implications this department is cooperating with law violators. Come to Huntsville and make your charges in person. We swore to uphold and defend the constitution when we took office. Can you say as much?"

The negro was taken from the jail when officers on duty went to investigate a mysterious telephone call to a nearby road house. He has not been located.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., June 18.—(AP)—

Police today were investigating reports that Thomas Jasper, 35-year-old negro farm hand, removed from the city jail early Tuesday by two white men following his conviction of disturbing a young white girl, escaped from his captors and was in hiding here.

Chief of Police H. C. Blakemore said he received reports that the negro broke away from the men as they were leaving the jail when they were seen by Mrs. Julia Brand. Mrs. Brand said the negro fled in one direction and the men in another, as she approached with her husband's breakfast.

Jasper was convicted Monday in city Court on a charge of entering the bedroom of a young white girl, the daughter of a tenant farmer near here, and fined \$100. He was without funds and was to begin working out the fine Tuesday.

NEW YORK TELEGRAM

JUN 17 1931 PRISONER FEARED LYNCHED

Negro, Kidnaped From Jail, Still Is Missing.

By the Associated Press.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., June 17.—Authorities have searched in vain thus far for Thomas Jasper, a Negro, who was abducted from the municipal jail here yesterday by two unidentified white men, and belief persisted in official circles today that he has been lynched.

Jasper was convicted recently of annoying a white girl in her home. He was fined \$100 and placed in prison in lieu of payment.

Bridgeport, Ala., Herald
Thursday, June 18, 1931

THINK NEGRO FLED WITH THE HELP OF TRIO

SEARCH BEING MADE FOR MEN AND NEGRO

Huntsville Officers Scout Theory That Negro Was Lynched By Men

Huntsville, Ala., June 17.—City and county officials tonight were inclined to scout the theory that Thomas Jasper, 35, Negro, had been spirited away from the city jail and lynched by two unidentified white men, and instead were leaning to the belief that the white men helped the negro es-

cap...

Search for the trio was continued tonight, but no trace of them was found. Jasper's disappearance occurred early yesterday morning.

Investigation today disclosed that a woman living near the jail had seen the three men leave the jail. She told officers that they left by the back way and that the negro went out fully one minute ahead of the two white men. Officers contend that if the white men had intended to harm the negro they would not have given him that much of a start.

Chief of Police, H. C. Blackmore, directing the search, said two white men entered the jail between 4:30 and 5 a.m., after an emergency call to "bring all available officers" to a road house near here had been received.

Blackmore said he believed the call was placed by the two men as an investigation revealed that there were no disorders at the road house. He said a lock on the rear door of the jail was broken while the officers were away, and the Negro taken out before their return.

Jasper was convicted in city court Monday of entering a white girl's home on the outskirts of the city. He was remanded to jail to begin working out a \$100 fine which he was unable to pay. Police said Jasper had been accused previously of the same offense.

Tuscaloosa, Ala., News
Thursday, June 18, 1931

NEGRO BELIEVED TO HAVE ESCAPED CAPTORS, HIDING

Huntsville Farm Hand Seen
To Break Away As Trio
Left Jail, Reported

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., June 18.—(AP)—Police today were investigating reports that Thomas Jasper, 35 year old negro farm hand removed from the city jail early Tuesday by two white men following his conviction of disturbing a young white girl, escaped from his captors and was in hiding here.

Chief of Police H. C. Blackmore said he received reports that

the negro broke away from the men as they were leaving the jail when they were seen by Mrs. Julia Brand. Mrs. Brand said the negro fled in one direction and the men in another, as she approached with her husband's breakfast.

A report was received by police today that the negro was seen near his home last night and Blackmore summoned members of his family for questioning.

Jasper was convicted Monday in city court on a charge of entering the bedroom of a young white girl, the daughter of a tenant farmer near here, and fined \$100. He was to begin working out the fine Tuesday.

CORSICANA, TEX.
SUN

JUN 19 1931 PROTEST MADE ON LYNCHING THAT DID NOT TAKE PLACE

HUNTSVILLE, June 19.—(AP)—The lynching of Thomas Jasper, negro, has been protested by the International Labor Defense, but Chief of Police H. C. Blackmore says Jasper escaped from his abductors and is not at liberty.

Jasper, under conviction of annoying a young white girl, was removed from his jail cell by two unidentified white men and has not been seen since, but the police said a woman living near the prison reported he escaped the kidnapers and fled.

The International Labor Defense protest came from its southern district office and said that sponser for leaving the jail under the "police officers, deputies, regarded equally guilty" with the "murderers," adding that "co-operation of police and lynchers is clear."

Blackmore telegraphed back that "Jasper was not lynched but made a getaway" and "we resent your implications that this department is co-operating with law violators."

Valdosta, Ga. Times
Friday, June 19, 1931

REPORT NEGRO ESCAPES

Huntsville, Ala., June 18. (AP)—Police today were investigating reports that Thomas Jasper, 35-year-old negro farm hand, removed from the city jail early Tuesday by two white men following his conviction of disturbing a young white girl, escaped from his captors and was in hiding here.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

AGE-HERALD

JUN 17 1931

LYNCHING FEARED AS JAILED NEGRO STOLEN BY RUSE

Two Men Are Sought In
Removal From Prison
At Huntsville

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., June 16.—(AP)—Search continued Tuesday night for Thomas Jasper, 35, negro removed from the city jail early Tuesday by two unidentified white men following his conviction Monday of disturbing a young white girl.

Madison County deputies and city officers Tuesday night expressed fear the negro had been carried to a lonely spot and lynched. They said no trace of the trio had been found since they dropped from sight after leaving the jail.

Chief of Police H. C. Blackmore, who is directing the search, said other prisoners told him two white men entered the jail between 4:30 and 5 a.m. after an emergency call to "bring all available officers" to a roadhouse near here had been received.

Blackmore said he believed the call was placed by the men as the investigation led by E. W. Reid, night desk sergeant, revealed there were no disorders at the place. He said a lock on the rear door of the jail was broken while the officers were away and the negro taken out before their return.

Negro Convicted

Jasper was convicted in City Court Monday on a charge of entering the girl's home on the outskirts of the city and was remanded to jail to begin working out a \$100 fine which he was unable to pay. Police said he had previously been accused of the same offense.

Labor Group Protests Kidnaping Of Negro

NEW YORK, June 21.—(AP)—The International Labor Defense today sent a telegram to Gov. B. M. Miller of Alabama protesting the reported kidnaping of Thomas Jasper, Huntsville, Ala., negro who is accused of annoying a white girl.

The telegram, signed by I. Lewis Engdahl, said: "The International Labor Defense must conclude that the alleged kidnaping of Thomas Jasper at Huntsville, the home of * * * (two white women) who helped frame nine Scottsboro boys,

as nothing but a brutal lynching unless Jasper is produced alive. We denounce this new outrage and pledge wide protest against it."

The "Scottsboro boys" referred to are the Alabama negroes who were convicted of rape, eight of whom have been sentenced to death. Another, Roy Wright 14, is awaiting retrial.

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald
Wednesday, June 17, 1931

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NEGRO KNEES FARMER

TROY, ALA., July 20.—(Special)—Lester Stewart, a farmer living in the County Line community was slashed with a razor by a negro on his farm early Monday morning. When Stewart went to a smokehouse to get meat the negro rushed upon him with the razor. After wounding the white man he fled to a swamp, where he is being sought for by county officials.

Jealousy Seen In Barn Burning

Negro's Farm Equipment,
Car, Building Destroyed
As Livestock Escapes

Apparently prompted by jealousy at his prosperity during the period of depression, incendiaries Sunday night burned and destroyed the barn of Ed M. Johnson, negro truck farmer on the Hayneville Road, about four miles from Montgomery. The loss was estimated at about \$2,000, and was not covered by insurance.

Johnson stated Monday that he had reported the destruction of his barn to the sheriff's office. Chief Deputy John Scogin reported that an investigation was being made.

The barn, a two-story building, was destroyed with all its contents. Farm equipment and a truck, in the building, were ruined beyond repair. Livestock which Johnson said he usually kept in the barn were in the pasture at the time and escaped burning.

About a week ago, Johnson said, he was ambushed while returning to his home just after nightfall. Two men, one on each side of the road, fired at him, both bullets missing their mark. He also has been the victim of several holdups in his small store near his home.

Johnson said yesterday he planned to dispose of his 27-acre property and move to another community.

Lynchings-1931

Side Lights.

DEATH CLAIMS FATHER AS MOB SEEKS HIS SONS

Wynne, Ark.—(ANP)—While posse of citizens led by sheriff of three counties were scouring the section in quest of his sons and two others, charged with killing a white man, Mose Miller, aged tenant farmer, died here in the local jail from wounds that he declared were inflicted by the white man. 4-24-31

According to the reports received by the officers, early Wednesday morning G. T. Glover, white, manager of the farm which was tilled by Miller and his sons, went to Miller's cabin and reprimanded the boys for their failure to work the day before. They argued with him and he was shot and then beaten to death.

The sheriff went to the Miller cabin and there found the aged man seriously wounded. He was rushed to the local jail and told the officers that Glover had abused him and his sons, along with two others and that when he remonstrated with him the white man shot him. After being shot, he declared that he shot and killed Glover.

The sons, with the two other farmhands had escaped. The news spread and the "citizens' committee" of some three hundred armed men, with bloodhounds set out after them. The shack and the surrounding neighborhood was searched but to no avail. The bloodhounds picked up the trail and followed it to the swamp about eight miles from the scene of the killing, and it is believed that the fugitives are hiding in the swamp.

Despite their overwhelming numbers, much caution is being taken by the members of the posse, as it is known that at least three of the men sought are armed. The sheriff of this county stated, however, that if the men did not come out and surrender voluntarily the swamp will be entered by the posse and preparation had been made to "fight it out" with the fugitives.

NEGRO SLAYERS ESCAPE.

Bellevue Twist, Ark., Brothers Headed for England Home.

MARION, Ark., March 20.—Officers in the posse that for 24 hours trailed the two Miller negroes for the murder of L. T. Glover, 40, plantation manager, here yesterday, returned from the

chase this afternoon convinced that the brothers had crossed the St. Francis River some six miles from the scene of the crime, and probably headed back for England, near Lonoke, where they worked last season.

The bloodhounds from Hot Springs were sent back. Officers will adopt a waiting policy, expecting to pick up the negroes elsewhere soon.

The body of Mose Miller, 50, father of the two fugitive brothers, who died in Crittenden County jail here last night from bullet wounds inflicted by Glover, was taken back to Twist and buried there by relatives. Miller, before dying, says Glover shot him and that he shot Glover, but officers believe the two boys fired the fatal shots at Glover.

The plantation manager had gone to the Miller cabin to ascertain why the family had not appeared for work, and a fight ensued. Two other negro boys, about 10 or 12 years of age, who witnessed the fight, were also missing.

TRAIL FOUR NEGROES FOR KILLING PLANTER

Three Sheriffs Lead Posse After Cross Murder.

WYNNE, Ark., March 21.—Led by sheriffs of three counties, a posse of citizens and officers tonight, with bloodhounds, was trailing four negro tenants, two of them brothers and at least three of them armed, after the murder of G. T. Glover, 40, plantation manager on the big Twist farm, northeast of Wynne, who was slain when he is said to have remonstrated with them for not working.

Approximate location of at least two of the negroes was known tonight and officers were beating the woods near Marked Tree, some eight miles from the scene of the tragedy, where the two had been seen and where the dogs were carrying the posse on the trail.

The two brothers were seen by farmers, who said it was possible that the others were nearby. Officers expected to arrest them or fight it out, early in the morning. Their father, Mose Miller, was arrested at the Miller cabin where Glover was beaten and shot to death this morning. Miller is in jail at Marion, badly wounded, having been shot by Glover in the fight. He probably will die.

Sheriffs Howard Curlin of Crittenden, Harve Landers of Poinsett

and Cooper of Cross were in the posse tonight.

There were no eye witnesses to the shooting except the negroes, officers said. It was deduced by them that Glover was ganged by the five negroes, beaten down and then shot twice through the body with a rifle. The four negroes fled and neighbors found Glover dead.

The fleeing negroes are said to be armed with a shotgun and Glover's pistol in addition to the rifle. Miller and his sons came to Crittenden County about two months ago from England, Ark.

Glover is survived by his widow and two children.

CONSTABLE'S SLAYERS ELUDE ALL PURSUERS

Two Negroes Shoot Down Bald Knob Officer.

BALD KNOB, Ark., April 18.—A 24-hour search for two negro slayers of Constable Willis Hobbs, 35, tonight had been futile despite the fact that neighboring towns set up watches for the desperadoes. The negroes are believed to be hiding in the woods and that they will be trapped when hunger forces them out.

The negroes are believed to be desperate characters as they started shooting without warning last night at 9 o'clock when Constable Hobbs and his deputy, John Polard, stopped them for questioning. Hobbs dropped at the first bullet, which penetrated his head. Polard returned the fire, but the negroes ran, tossing away their weapons which were found later near the scene.

Sheriff Smith, Deputy Plant and others came over from Searcy and organized a manhunt. The constable was a World War veteran and a very popular officer. He leaves a widow.

NEGRO SLAYER SOUGHT.

Bloodhounds Fail to Pick Up Trail of Suspect in Farm Killing.

BANKS, Ark., April 28.—Search continued tonight for Jim Lawson, negro tenant, wanted in connection with the killing late yesterday of Jack Martin, 30, prominent planter of this section.

Bloodhounds failed to discover the trail and several posses directed by Sheriff John C. Lee sought Lawson in swamps near here.

Although no witnesses to the shotgun shooting of Martin were

available, Sheriff Lee said the planter was struck three times in the back, apparently as he was walking away from Lawson's home, which is on the Martin plantation.

Sheriff Lee said Lawson failed to return to work yesterday, and that Martin went to see him about it. The sheriff said that he believed a quarrel took place.

Lawson's wife, who fled soon after the shooting, is sought as a witness.

Martin is survived by his wife and four small children, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Martin, a prominent Bradley County family.

ESCAPED LYNCHERS; REACHES DEATH CELL

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 25—

(By ANP)—James Lawson, who is in the electric chair for the murder of a white man, reached the state prison late Thursday afternoon and was immediately placed in the death cell.

When the killing occurred a posse of some hundred or more citizens combed the section for Lawson, but by hiding in the tree-tops and in the bushes he was successful in evading the mob and finally surrendered to the police.

Posses Seeking Sheriff's Slayer

TEXARKANA, ARK., July 28.—(AP)—While Little Rock and Hot Springs officers were reported speeding to Texarkana in airplanes tonight with bloodhounds, hundreds of Miller County residents gathered at Boyd, eight miles from here, to begin a search for the slayer of Sheriff Walter Harris.

The Miller County officer, shot five times while leading a raiding party to a still, died late today just as he reached a Texarkana hospital, where his wife is in a critical condition from a recent operation.

A negro found seriously wounded in woods near the still, told Deputy Prosecuting Atty. H. N. Barney that Bob Taylor, a white man, shot the Sheriff. Groans of the wounded negro led officers to his hiding place. He denied he had been working at the still, and said he had gone there for a drink. Officers expressed the belief that the negro had no connection with the slaying.

Reports of the slaying were meager and varied. Deputy Sheriff W. B. Branch, who was with Sheriff Harris, said one man at the still was a "yellow" negro and the other was either a white man or a negro. Other officers on the raid, but not in the immediate vicinity, said they believed a white man did the shooting.

Arkansas.

3576

OFFICER GIVES UP VICTIM TO MEN

Negro Aids White Man
In Arkansas Lynching;
Makes 9 for Year

DeWITT, Ark.—(ANP)—

In the ninth lynching for this year and the first for the state of Arkansas, John Brooks joined a white man, O. C. Lumsden, in the slaying of John Parker. Brooks and the white man took Parker from Deputy Sheriff Henry Cummins, after Lumsden had stopped the deputy, and the two of them had threatened him with shotguns, stood the prisoner by the side of the road and Brooks then fired a load of buckshot into him, killing him instantly.

Parker had been arrested two days before for the killing of another man, a friend of Brooks, and wounding three other persons.

After the killing, Brooks was brought to the county jail at DeWitt by Lumsden. He was held without bond, but Lumsden was granted bail. Cummins said he did not know why Lumsden participated in the shooting.

Negro Helps White Man To Lynch Negro

DEWITT, Ark., Aug. 13.—(ANP)—In the ninth lynching for this year and the first for the state of Arkansas, John Brooks joined a white man, O. C. Lumsden, in the slaying of John Parker. Brooks and the white man took Parker from Deputy Sheriff Henry Cummins, after Lumsden had stopped the deputy, and the two of them had threatened him with shotguns, stood the prisoner by the side of the road and Brooks then fired a load of buckshot into him, killing him instantly. Parker had been arrested two days before for the killing of another man, a friend of Brooks, and wounding three other persons.

After the killing, Brooks was brought to the county jail at DeWitt by Lumsden. He was held without bond, but Lumsden was granted bail. Cummins said he did not know why Lumsden participated in the shooting.

SLAYER OF OFFICER KILLED BY POSSE

Memphis
Reaches for Gun When Cor-
nered in Cafe and Is
Shot Down.
Commenced

BOONEVILLE, Ark., Dec. 21--
(AP)—After eluding posses of four
counties for five days in the moun-
tains of West Arkansas, a man posi-
tively identified as the slayer of
Constable Mont Creekmore, of Paris,
was slain today while eating in a
cafe here.

The man, suspected because of his
bedraggled appearance, was shot by
two deputized citizens, Bob Daugh-
erty and George Taylor, when he re-
sisted arrest. They said he attempt-
ed to draw one of two pistols later
found on him.

Mont Perryman and Jack White of
Paris, with Creekmore when he was
slain, positively identified the body
as that of the killer. Creekmore
was killed at Paris last Tuesday
when he attempted to question four
men in an automobile. The slayer,
wounded, escaped on foot. His three
companions said he was a stranger
to them and known only as Wilson.
They could not explain the reason
for the shooting.

Taylor received a flesh wound in
the arm when struck by a bullet
fired at the man by Daugherty. The
man had a wounded hand. The body
was taken to Paris.

Posses and citizens of Logan, Se-
bastian, Yell and Crawford counties
participated in the search. Several
posses had trailed the slayer through
the mountainous sections. Paris of-
ficers notified Taylor, a former offi-
cer here, that he was believed in
this vicinity.

The slain man, about 28 years of
age, was wearing a watch stolen
from A. H. Scott of Waveland the
night before Creekmore was killed.
A leather case he was carrying bore
the name of Herbert C. Howell.

Lynchings-1931

Side Lights -

Posse Kills Negro Who Wounded Man And Boy

CHOWCHILLA, CALIF. Feb 17—(AP)—John Stanford, apparently crazed negro, was shot and killed near here today by a posse of 50 men after a frenzy of shooting in which he wounded a man and a boy. *Montezuma*

Armed with a rifle, Stanford took possession of a dirt-walled reserved and held the posse at bay 12 hours before he was killed.

Stanford was identified as an escaped convict from Mississippi, where he was serving a sentence for murder. His alias was said to have been Ed Woods.

The man's first victim was Frank Olivero, 13, who was shot in the leg as he walked down a road. Olivero lay until morning when a neighbor found him.

Edward Ward, another negro ranch worker, was shot through the head. Ward's wife said she had received warning Stanford intended to kill them both.

Lynchings-1931

Side Light
**GUARD HOME OF
TUSKEGEE GRAD**

11-21-31
HASTINGS, Fla.—Prof. W. E. Harris, principal of the Hastings Training and Vocational School, Hastings, Fla., is being sought for the death of a white child.

It is claimed that he ran over the child and killed it almost instantly as the child alighted from the school bus.

Members of the police force are guarding the home of Prof. Harris to prevent outbreaks by whites who want to avenge the child's death.

The whereabouts of Prof. Harris is unknown but it is thought that he is being held for safe keeping somewhere in Florida.

Prof. W. E. Harris has served as principal at Hastings for the past seven years and has an excellent record. He is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute.

Lynchings - 1931

Florida

3579

Side lights.

Florida Men Are Held For Beating Up Negro

WEST PALM BEACH, FLA., July 6.—
(P)—Sheriff R. C. Baker reported that
three white men were being held at
Clewiston, Fla., in connection with the
beating and shooting to death of Lester
Booe, a negro, near there Sunday night.

The men under arrest, the sheriff said,
are Percy Helvester, Bare Beach, Fla.,
and Julian and Cecil McDuffie, Clewis-
ton.

Sheriff Baker said he had been in-
formed the men quarreled with the ne-
gro over liquor, and that they took him
from his home, beat him severely and
shot him five times.

Lynchings- 1931
Side Lights.

SHERIFF'S SLAYER CAUGHT BY POSSE AND BROUGHT HERE

Negro Youth, Wounded, Is Placed in Fulton Tower; Thomas Camp Dies on Way to Hospital

Cornered in an open field after an all-day pursuit by large posses and bloodhounds, Fred Griffin, 18-year-old negro, of Logansville, late Friday afternoon was arrested for the murder of Sheriff Thomas W. Camp, of Campbell county, who was slain near the courthouse at Fairburn with his own gun.

Sheriff Camp's pistol, a pearl-handled six-inch barrel .38 calibre Smith and Wesson, was found in the negro's possession, and Griffin was identified positively by Lester Heineman, of Fairburn, an eye-witness of the slaying, as the man who shot Sheriff Camp during a scuffle over possession of the gun, according to G. C. Bentley, police chief of Campbell county.

Suffering from hundreds of small wounds made by bird shot fired at him during a brief last stand in the open field, half a mile east of Red Oak, Griffin was rushed to Grady hospital by Fulton county officers, and after receiving treatment was placed in Fulton tower for safekeeping. The mile-a-minute race to Atlanta was made with County Patrolman Cal Bates at the wheel and with Captain J. C. Oliver, Lieutenant R. F. Jordan and Deputies Sheriff W. H. Mayo and J. W. Jordan guarding the prisoner.

Jailer J. L. Milam, on duty at the Fulton tower, said at an early hour Saturday morning that Griffin had made a full confession to him, admitting not only the slaying of Sheriff Camp, but asserting that he escaped recently from the Morgan county chain-gang, where he was serving a 20-year sentence for murder. The negro also admitted, according to Milam, that he stole the automobile in which he arrived at Fairburn and that he had burglarized a store in Alabama a few days before.

Chief Bentley said that he is absolutely certain that the slayer of Sheriff Camp is in custody. Questioned at the hospital, Griffin denied shooting Sheriff Camp, and explained possession of the gun by saying that he met another negro in a cane break and swapped him a new pair of tan

shoes for the gun. Deputy Sheriff Mayo said that newly plowed ground aided, in the search for the slayer during the times when the bloodhounds lost the trail. The negro was barefooted. He was sighted as he broke from the cover of a swamp and started across an open field with the posse hot on his heels. Mayo said. Deputies Sheriff Mayo and Jordan were the first officers to reach the negro after citizen members of the posse grabbed him.

Officers from Campbell, Fulton, DeKalb, Cobb, Coweta, Clayton, Gwinnett and Fayette counties joined in the all-day search, aided by armed citizens who carried arms ranging from small pistols to heavy shotguns and rifles.

Physicians at Grady hospital said that Griffin had shallow birdshot wounds all over his back, legs and arms and the back of his head, but that probably none of the wounds would prove serious. X-ray pictures were made in order to determine if any of the shot injured the negro's head.

Chief Bentley said that a car left by the negro when he was arrested by Sheriff Camp was a 1926 Model T Ford coupe, and bore an Alabama license issued for a 1925 Model T Ford touring car. A suitcase full of cigars was found in the machine, he said. Officers have been sent to Opelika, Ala., to check on the automobile and license tag. Only one shot remained in the gun when the posse caught up with Griffin, Chief Bentley said. The negro fired this lone shot at the posse, and a dozen shotguns and pistols went into action, the negro going down under the peppering of bird-shot.

Breaks for Liberty. Sheriff Camp was preparing to take the negro, arrested on suspicion, from his office to the county jail when the man dashed from the courthouse, the sheriff in pursuit. On the edge of town Mr. Camp overtook him and they scuffled. The negro grabbed the sheriff's pistol from its holster and fired three shots at close range. One bullet passed through Camp's neck and the other two entered the abdomen. The negro carried the pistol away with him as he fled through the woods on foot.

Solicitor-General Claud Smith, of the Stone Mountain circuit, said the sheriff's suspicion of the negro had been confirmed and that "already evidence has been gathered to show that he was a member of a burglary ring." Smith declined to elaborate on this statement.

The sheriff succumbed to his wounds while being brought here in an ambulance.

Solicitor-General Smith said the possmen had tracked the negro through a swamp during the day until bloodhounds used in the search lay down in fatigue from their day-long trap.

Witness Tells of Slaying.

Heineman, who witnessed the struggle and fatal shooting, happened to be in the courthouse Friday morning, he said, and being a good friend of the sheriff's decided to drop in at his office and speak to him. When he entered, Sheriff Camp greeted him cheerfully, he said, and pointing to the negro, who was standing in the office, remarked: "Lester, what do you

think of a boy who is on his way to Atlanta to work for a man, and doesn't know the man's name?"

Sheriff Camp was holding the telephone receiver to his ear at the time, Heineman said, trying to put through a long-distance call to check the license plates on the negro's machine. He did not seem to regard the negro as dangerous, nor his offense as sufficiently serious to warrant his subsequent actions, for when the youth asked if he might get a drink of water, Lester said, Sheriff Camp good-naturedly acquiesced. The water cooler was in the hallway, outside the sheriff's office and near the open door. "Lester," he remarked, "show this boy where the water cooler is. And mind you," he added, smilingly, "if he tries to run, hit him with a brick or something."

Heineman said the negro finished drinking and then, making as though to hang up the dipper, ducked suddenly through the doorway and fled.

Fierce Struggle.

Shouting, Heineman set off in pursuit, following the negro through backyards and over fences, the sheriff, meanwhile, driving round in his car by a side road to head off the fugitive. Heineman, soon outdistanced, saw the sheriff cut in ahead of the negro, jump out of his car and fire one shot at the ground to make the negro halt. Heineman, thinking the sheriff had his man, slackened his pace, he said, when suddenly he was electrified to see the negro leap at the sheriff and bear him to the ground. A fierce struggle ensued.

Sheriff Camp seemed to be getting the better of the negro, Heineman said, and was on top of him when three shots rang out sharply, in quick succession, and it was the negro who jumped up, and the sheriff who lay still on the ground. Heineman, who had by this time approached within about 50 feet of the two men, was forced to leap behind a tree when the negro leveled the sheriff's gun at him. And then, sensing apparently that Heineman was unarmed, the negro turned and fled.

Sheriff Camp was serving his second term as sheriff. He was widely known throughout the state and his son, Thomas L. Camp, is secretary to Congressman Ramspeck, of the fifth Georgia district. Lawrence Camp, chairman of the state democratic executive committee, is a nephew of the deceased.

Sheriff Camp was a Mason and a member of the Methodist church. He is survived by his widow, two daughters, Miss Annie Sarah and Miss Katherine Camp; three sons, Thomas, Fred and Ben Camp; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Camp, of Riverton; a sister and a brother.

Funeral services will be held at Fairburn this afternoon, further arrangements to be announced by Bishop & Shaw, funeral directors in charge.

Solicitor-General Claud Smith Friday night expressed the appreciation of himself and the citizens of Campbell county to officers from Fulton and other counties who made possible the capture of the negro and the prevention of any mob demonstration. Sheriffs of Coweta, Carroll, Cobb, Clayton, DeKalb, Fulton and Fayette counties, the Fulton county police, and Warden Dunaway of the state

Georgia

prison farm at Milledgeville were included in his expression of appreciation.

Negro Slayer Of Sheriff Wounded

Continued

FAIRBURN, GA., April 3.—(A)—An unidentified negro who early today shot and fatally wounded Sheriff Thomas W. Camp, was shot down by a posse near here tonight. 4-4-31

His condition, reported from an Atlanta hospital, where he was taken by officers, was described as "very critical." Capt. John C. Oliver, of Fulton County police, said the negro fired on the posse when he was apprehended in an open field near here. None of the posse was injured. "The negro fired only one shot," the officer continued, "it being the only one left in the pistol belonging to Sheriff Camp."

The negro had fired three shots at close range at the sheriff with the latter's pistol, which the negro took from the officer during a struggle. The sheriff had overtaken the negro as he attempted to flee on the way from the courthouse to jail. He had been arrested on suspicion.

LAWLESSNESS IN HEARD COUNTY

The Independent regrets to chronicle incidents of lawlessness that occasionally break out in our state. The late Rev. J. B. Crawford of the Baptist Church was delivering one of the welcome addresses to the delegates of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., in the city this week. Mr. Leonard Hicks was hiding in Atlanta and appealing to the Inter-racial Commission to save him from the lawless mob and make it possible for him to return to his farm in Heard County, Georgia. Mr. Hicks is an ex-soldier drawing \$18.00 per month as a World War Veteran and lately received \$500.00 bonus from the Veterans' Bureau at Washington. He lives on his own one-hundred acre farm, raises stock, some cotton and a plenty to live on. On Saturday night, the 29th of August he was waited on by a group of white men at his home, including Artis Heard, Bernice Morris, Bill Knowles and Clifford Scott. Artis Heard attempted to stab him and Bernice Morris shot at him, both commanding that he "stick 'em up," and give them his money. They told him that he had money and they came to get it or his life. It

seems that Clifford Scott and Bill Knowles declined to join the others in the attempt or robbery and fled from the place. Hicks broke loose from them being the better of the two outlaws and ran in his house and got his gun, Bernice Morris shooting at him as he ran. He got his pistol and returned the fire as they fled. Hicks is of the opinion that he hit Knowles. Not long ago a similar report came to our notice from Lincoln County, where a white mob had driven a Negro preacher from the county under the protest that he had unmercifully beaten a little Negro child. All of these things were well known to Dr. Crawford at the time that he was saying that Georgia was the best state in the Union, had the best laws, and the most fairly enforced law administered among the people without regard to race or color.

In Heard County, Leonard Hicks is a well to do Negro farmer, a soldier who served his country over seas, a tax payer and a law abiding citizen who is expelled from his county, which is equivalent to confiscating his property by a lawless mob. He appealed to his white neighbors to help him before he left home; he called a meeting among his neighbors and only one white man and several Negroes came; the white man told him that he and his neighbors were afraid to offer him the assistance he deserved for fear that the same outlaws would murder them and burn their property; that they were in sympathy, but were afraid of that bootlegger, rocketeering gang who kept terror in the community. He came to Atlanta, he called on District Attorney Clint Hager who turned him over to Editor Ben Davis, because he did not see how the Government could interfere in a matter where the state could easily control by its police power in Heard County if it made the effort. Mr. Davis in turn referred the matter to the Inter-racial Commission in the Standard Building and the Commission is making a first hand investigation in order to find out the truth of the statement made by Leonard Hicks under the instructions of

3580

Editor Davis.

Brother Crawford ought to read, but he knows better and is only playing the Uncle Tom for some white man to say he is a good Negro. His talk did not take with the delegates because they felt that he was hypocritizing them.

WEST POINT NEGRO

HUNTED IN SHOOTING

WEST POINT, Ga., Sept. 18.—Armed men patrolled all roads at Jones' crossroads in Harris county, hunting Cleveland Copeland, an Auburn, Ala., negro, who is said to have shot George Davis, a well-known white man, Sunday morning.

The trouble occurred on the farm of Charles M. Bawner, brother-in-law of Mr. Davis, about 12 miles east of West Point, on the Chipley road.

Copeland went to the house of Sim Simpson, a negro tenant on the Bawner place, expecting to marry Sim's daughter, Josephine Davidson. Sim objected and Copeland grew so obstreperous that several white men were called in to make him leave.

When Mr. Davis arrived Copeland shot him, and one of the negroes seized the shotgun Mr. Davis carried and shot Copeland. Mr. Davis was wounded in the leg, but not seriously. Copeland was traced some distance by his blood, but it is not known how badly he was hurt.

POSSES HUNT NEGRO ON ASSAULT CHARGE

MACON, Ga., Oct. 28.—(P)—Armed posses led by Houston county deputies continued to comb the swamp near Echeconnee creek Wednesday in their search for a negro youth wanted for attempted criminal assault on a 68-year-old white woman late Tuesday afternoon.

Minister and Wife Whipped by Mob of Georgia Farmers

NEW YORK, Sept. 11.—The lashing of Rev. J. E. Bates of Lincoln county, Georgia, and his wife and one W. L. Johnson by two white men of Lincoln county, Georgia, early in July has been called to the attention of the United States department of justice by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 60 Fifth Ave. Information reaching the association is that Rev. Mr. Bates, who is a share-cropper and farmer on the farm of J. L. Mason, was whipped after he demanded an investigation by the coroner of the death of a small child of W. L. Johnson, his neighboring share-cropper.

The body of the Johnson child who was an invalid, was buried without the coroner seeing the case, despite the fact that Bates and Johnson saw the coroner's investigation. After the burial suspicion arose that the child had been beaten to death, and the matter was again called to the attention of the authorities, who refused to disinter the body and dismissed the case.

Urged Coroner's Probe

It is thought that for his activity in demanding a coroner's investigation Bates was beaten, as was his wife and Johnson. The opinion is expressed guardedly in the community that the Johnson child may have been killed by persons who did not like the independence of Johnson and Bates as farmers.

The Bates family was forced to flee from Lincoln county after the beating, being threatened with death if they did not do so. Johnson and Bates were stripped and beaten in the presence of Mrs. Bates, and she in turn was stripped in their presence and beaten, according to a former complaint sworn out before a notary public in Atlanta by Rev. Bates.

Rev. Bates has appealed in every direction for aid. He states that a condition of peonage exists in the county and that he dares not return to claim his household goods and other property for fear of being killed. In a petition to the governor of Georgia he lists his property, including crops and household goods, and asks for protection for them until he can return to claim them.

Lynchings - 1931

Side Lights.

REPORT MORE TONGANOXIE TROUBLE

Call
**Whites Angry Because Negro
Beaten by Hoodlums
Goes to Court**

TONGANOXIE, Kas.—Just because Albert Caldwell of this city did not keep still about being beaten up and having his ear nearly cut off by a gang of white hoodlums, this whole town has risen up against colored people and serious trouble is threatened.

Last Saturday night a mob of whites went out to a filling station on No. 40 highway just east of here, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hicks and attempted to destroy the property. Mrs. Hicks frightened them away with a shot gun.

Tuesday night another gang was reported as having attempted to start trouble.

State Into Case

To prevent serious consequences, the state attorney general's office has interested itself in the case and has sent a special investigator into the case.

The trouble all began when a gang of young hoodlums jumped on Mr. Caldwell about three weeks ago and beat him up just for sport. They caught him in a garage in the heart of town and hit him with their fists, with sticks, oil bottles and garage tools. His right ear was cut so badly on a bottle that twenty-three stitches had to be taken in it.

The Caldwells have lived in Tonganoxie for more than forty years. Mr. Caldwell, who is past forty, was born and raised in the town. He lives there now with his mother, Mrs. Lutie Caldwell.

Caldwell swore out a warrant for about eight of the boys who beat him and the trial was scheduled to come up this week.

That is the whole trouble. Tonganoxie whites do not think Caldwell ought to go to court to protect himself. He only nearly got killed and nearly lost one of his ears and he ought to take the matter as a joke. That's what the town thinks and it got all up in arms when it found out there really was going to be a trial and the ear-cutters would have

to tell it to the judge.

Shotgun "Cools" Them

The town looked around for some one to take out its spite on and found the Hicks family. Mrs. Hicks is a sister of Mr. Caldwell and that made things just right. Besides, the Hickses were running a filling station on a public highway and no Negroes ought to do that. Saturday night the gang was going to have a great time, but Mrs. Hicks spoiled the party by dragging out a shotgun. That kind of got the boys out of the notion. It's funny enough when white folks have the guns and Negroes are absorbing the buckshot, but it's not so funny the other way around. So the gang went back home and tried to think up another one.

Tonganoxie is one of the little towns in Kansas where the klan spirit has managed to keep alive. A fiery cross is kept burning on a hill near the town constantly.

Kansas.

3581

Lynchings- 1931

Kentucky

3582

Side Lights

NEGROES CONTINUE TO ELUDE POSSE

Fugitives Wanted On Charges
Of Robbery And Attempted
Assault

FULTON, KY., March 13. (P)—Ful-
ton County officers and citizens made
an intensive but unsuccessful search to-
day for two negroes who terrorized two
rural homes near here Wednesday night
and allegedly attempted criminal assault
in one of them. 3-14-31

Police Chief Bailey Huddleston, of Ful-
ton, visited the home of Sam Howell this
afternoon. He was told two masked ne-
groes tied up Howell, his wife, two chil-
dren and a woman visiting them, threat-
ened them with pistols and knives, and
slashed the clothing from the two wo-
men. P. J. Dillon, farmer of the same
neighborhood, earlier had reported two
negroes beat and bound him, his wife
and three sons, and robbed them of
their auto. 3-14-31

At Hickman, the county seat, Sheriff
Goalder Johnson organized his deputies
for the search. When reports of the
Howell family's experience circulated to-
day, citizens joined the search. The sher-
iff at New Madrid, Mo., across the Mis-
sissippi River was notified and his office
kept a lookout.

Chief Huddleston was told the negroes,
upon being told there was no money in
the Howell home, threatened to "cut your
throats if we find a dime." Then Mrs.
Howell told where a watch could be
found and the visitor, Mrs. Charles
Hatler, who lived across the road, gave
up a small diamond ring. The negroes
left the watch.

Tying up the entire group, the negroes
took Howell and his 14-year-old son into
another room, leaving the women and
Howell's daughter, 13. Huddleston was
told they returned and threatened the
women, cutting most of their clothing
from them but not injuring them se-
riously.

After spending more than an hour at
the Howell home, Huddleston learned,
the negroes left about 9:30 p.m. They
returned a few moments later, warned
their victims to remain quiet, put out
the fires and lights, and vanished.

The Howells freed themselves. They
told Huddleston they delayed giving an
alarm and withheld details nearly 48
hours, because they feared the negroes
would fulfill a threat to return.

TWO NEGROES SOUGHT FOR CLUBBING FAMILY

Pair Escapes After Attack-
ing Farmer, Four Others.

FULTON, Ky., March 12. (AP)
—P. J. Dillon, 62, farmer and four
members of his family were recov-
ering from a clubbing tonight while
Tennessee and Kentucky officers
watched for two negroes who in-
vaded and robbed the Dillon farm
home late last night.

Dillon, his 59-year-old wife and
three sons, were surprised as they
slept and were tied in their beds
after being beaten by the robbers.

Sheriff Goalder Johnson patroll-
ed highways about Hickman and
near the Dillon farm, about 25
miles east of here. He said the ne-
groes escaped in a green sedan,
stolen from the Dillons, and last
were reported near Dyersburg, in
Western Tennessee.

Clothing and \$2.50 in money
were taken from the house. The
negroes were not recognized, and
the sheriff believed they were
strangers.

Both negroes were armed and
carried flashlights. One of them
used a stick to subdue the Dillons,
while the other threatened with a
pistol.

Lynchings - 1931

Side Lights.

DEATH ROBS LA. MOB OF VICTIM

Pittsburgh Pa.

SHREVEPORT, La., Jan. 22—Death in the form of peritonitis claimed Leman McDaniel at midnight Sunday and dispersed a mob of 1500 bent on lynching, who milled about the hospital where he was being treated for wounds suffered in a police gun fight. The shooting was fatal to two officers.

The crowd began to climb an unguarded fire escape to the Negro ward on the third floor, but left after three of the group were shown the body.

The man was brought to the hospital after a gambling raid Saturday night upon his store, which was led by three policemen with their faces blackened.

In the battle Teddy Williams and Lee Allen Williams, policemen, were shot dead.

McDaniel denied shooting the officers.

Leaps in River When Pursued By Mob

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 28.—Trapped aboard a Walnut Street ferry boat by a hostile body of white men, Alfred Richard, 28-year-old Negro worker, leaped into the Mississippi River and was drowned Friday afternoon.

The boss press is now trying to cover up the affair by pretending that Richard was a burglar and preferred to face death in the river to being "arrested." Richard could not swim. Spectators also admit that he ignored life preservers which were thrown at him by the mob.

Gastonia, N. C. Gazette
Monday, January 19, 1931

Death Saves Negro From Lynching

When Mob Stormed New Orleans Hospital They Found Negro Slayer Of Two Policemen Dead From Wounds.

SHREVEPORT, La., Jan. 19. —(P)— Death in the form of peritonitis claimed Leman McDaniel, negro, last midnight, and dispersed a militant crowd of 1,500 persons, who filled the hospital where he was being treated for wounds suffered in a police gun fight. The shooting was fatal to two officers.

Headless of the pleas of authorities, a few members of the crowd climbed an unguarded fire escape and gained the negro ward on the third floor of the hospital before McDaniel's death, but they left after three of the group had been called into the negro's room by Dr. E. L. Sanderson, superintendent, and shown the body. Dr. Sanderson said peritonitis developed in one of his wounds causing death.

The entire police force, augmented by all available sheriff's deputies and a score of city firemen, guarded the narrow stairway to the upper floors holding most of the crowd to the ground floor.

The negro was brought to the hospital after a raid Saturday night upon his grocery which was led by three policemen wearing old clothes and with faces blackened. The officers said they suspected the grocery of hiding a gambling den.

In a pistol battle, Teddy Williams, policeman, was shot dead, and Lee Allen Williams, no kin to his fellow officer, was wounded fatally.

POLICE AND MOB IN LA. MAN HUNT

MONROE, La., Feb. 19.—Lynch gangs from the Ouachita sheriff's office, members of the city police of Monroe and West Monroe, augmented by bourgeois "volunteers" are combing the highways for miles around Monroe in a man-hunt for

Negro who shot and killed a railroad dick when the latter tried to brutalize him. The mob is using bloodhounds.

Threats of lynching are made on every side, with the police doing everything in their power to further whip up the lynching sentiment.

NEW YORK SUN

AUG 15 1931 RIDERS' WARN NEGROES

Rout Them From Louisiana Homes After Attack.

DENHAM SPRINGS, La., Aug. 15 (U. P.).—Armed bands of citizens, thwarted in their attempt to lynch a Negro for an attempted attack on a white woman, rode through Livingston Parish today, driving Negroes from their homes.

More than five hundred "night riders" spent the early hours routing out Negroes, and upward of a hundred construction camp workers were among those who hurried out of the parish. Warnings were given that unless the exodus of undesirables was immediate violence might occur. Ellis Smith, 25 years old, alleged to have confessed an attempted attack on Mrs. Monroe Hatchell was under guard in the Baton Rouge (La.) State Prison after deputies succeeded in evading a mob bent on lynching him.

The attack on the woman occurred at her home. Her eight-year-old daughter and aged father were injured trying to save her, and in the scuffle Mrs. Hatchell's small baby was trampled on.

Negroes Driven Out of Homes in Louisiana By Mobs of Armed Whites

Deham Springs, La. Armed bands of whites, thwarted in their attempt to lynch Ellis Smith, 25 Negro, for an alleged attack on a white woman, rode through Livingston Parish Saturday driving Negroes from their homes.

More than 500 "night riders" spent the early hours routing out Negroes. Upward of a hundred construction camp workers were among those who hurried out of the parish. Warnings were given that unless the exodus of Negroes was immediate violence would occur.

Smith is alleged to have attempted an attack on Mrs. Monroe Hatchell at her home. The

prisoner was under guard in the Baton Rouge State Prison after deputies succeeded in evading the mob bent on lynching him.

Life of Negro Sought By Mob in Louisiana

BATON ROUGE, La., Aug. 14 (AP).—A furious mob of Livingston Parish citizens gathered at the East Baton Rouge jail Friday night demanding the life of Ellis Smith, 25-year-old negro, accused of attacking Mrs. Monroe Hatchell.

Smith was caught after an all-day search of the lowlands on the Amite River near Mrs. Hatchell's home, thirty miles east of here.

When discovered hiding in the bushes several miles from the scene of the attack, he was seized by officers and brought to jail here with the mob in pursuit.

Scene Of Labor Now Quiet

DANHAM SPRING, LA., Aug. 15.—(P)—Livingston Parish was quiet tonight after the closing of four road construction camps by Louisiana Highway Commission officials as a precaution against outbreaks resulting from reputed employment of non-resident negroes.

Practically all non-resident negroes have scattered, and no further trouble is anticipated such as last night when bands of several hundred men marched on the construction camps and ordered non-resident negroes to leave the country.

The friction was precipitated by the beating and choking of the wife of a white highway worker, to which Ellis Smith, 25-year-old negro, has reportedly confessed.

Contractors told highway officials that practically all "home negroes" had been employed. They reported that two of their negro workmen had been slightly wounded when someone fired into one of the camps last night.

Smith, who sheriffs of Livingston and East Baton Rouge say has admitted beating Mrs. Monroe Hanchell, of near Albany, and striking the woman's eight-year-old daughter, is being held in the East Baton Rouge Parish jail for safe-keeping.

Mrs. Hanchell was reported recovering from her injuries at a Baton Rouge hospital.

Officers Seeking Men Who Tortured Negroes

CROWLEY, LA., Nov. 13.—(P)—Officers of the law are on the trail of torture bandits operating in St. Landry Parish.

Three men, one of them masked, early today roused Gustav Fusseller, 50-year-old negro merchant of Eunice, handcuffed him, pulled his finger nails out, clubbed him over the head with a revolver and made him tell where he had hidden \$840. They stole the money and

Fusseller gave Eunice officers a description of the men. This is the third time recently that such attacks have been made by a band of white men on negroes.

3583

Maryland.

3584

lynchings-1931

Side Lights.
MOB ATTACKS FOUR NEGROES

~~REPORTED~~
BERLIN, Md. — Four persons, all colored, were injured in a race riot here Monday following a demonstration of white persons, incited by the murder of a white family of four last week by Orphan Jones, 60-year-old farm hand.

Lynchings-1931

Side Lights.

BOSTON, MASS.
POST

OCT 12 1931

LYNCHING THREAT BY BIG CROWD

Vainly Seeks Woburn Man Who Hit Wife With Rock

Woburn nearly had a lynching party last night as scores of colored citizens roamed the streets looking for Sidney Hester, colored, who yesterday afternoon chased his wife,

Delia, along Everett street and finally hit her on the head with a rock, knocking her into an 18-foot excavation. A few hours later, Hester, his throat cut by a pocketknife, was found walking in Wilmington and arrested by Sergeant W. H. Sweeney of Woburn. Both he and his wife are in the Choate Hospital, Woburn, with their names on the danger list.

COLORED FOLK ENRAGED

Police stated that the temper of the citizens who sought Hester was such that there would probably have been a lynching had he been located by them. The entire colored population was enraged and groups went about the city looking everywhere for Hester.

According to the police, Hester, who is 69, went into a rage when his wife, 36, left him the previous night and stayed with the family of his brother, Thomas Hester of Everett street. Yesterday afternoon, Hester spotted her on Everett street and started after her. She ran toward Main street, and Hester, picking up a large stone, threw it at her. It struck her in the head and she stumbled into an excavation in the street, falling fully 18 feet. He then stood on the brink of the hole and threw more rocks in on her.

The assault took place on one of the main streets and a large crowd gathered. Police were called and Sergeant Sweeney and Patrolman Alonzo B. Hien carried the woman out with

ladders and took her to the Choate Hospital.

Last night, while off duty, Sergeant Sweeney was driving in Wilmington and he saw Hester leaning against a post at Lowell and Main streets. Sweeney went into a nearby gasoline station and telephoned the Wilmington police, telling them that the man was wanted for assault with intent to kill in Woburn.

Returning to his automobile, Sweeney trailed Hester down Main street a few hundred feet, then jumped out of his machine and grabbed him. To the sergeant's astonishment, he noticed that Hester's throat was cut. Patrolman Albert Batten of the Wilmington police took Hester to the Choate Hospital.

Police were unable to learn when Hester cut his throat, but Sergeant Sweeney said that the man appeared to be all right when he first saw him leaning against the post. He had walked several hundred feet, at least, with the blood pouring from his wound.

Massachusetts.

3585

Lynchings-1931
Side lights.

NEGRO ASSAILANT SLAIN

Shot Down in Running Battle With Sheriff's Posse

INDIANOLA, Miss., Feb. 14.—George Spann, negro, who last Tuesday shot and seriously wounded Chas. O'Neal, Jr., on his plantation near Sunflower, was killed this morning near Blaine in a running fight with a sheriff's posse.

Following the shooting of Mr. O'Neal, bloodhounds were procured from Clarksdale and Isola but after several hours of trailing in the swamps of Quiver River, the trail was lost. Immediately after the shooting the sheriff's office was notified and the posse was put out by wire to all points in Sunflower and adjoining counties.

Early this morning some small boys discovered a negro lying in a vacant house on a plantation near Blaine. They reported their finding and the sheriff's office was notified. A posse was sent to the vicinity and on its approach to the cabin, the negro appeared with a gun in his hand and opened fire. The posse returned the fire and the negro fled, keeping up his firing till he was shot down. At the time of the shooting of Mr. O'Neal, he had been told by Mr. O'Neal to hitch up a mule for plowing. The negro refused and Mr. O'Neal undertook to force him, when the negro drew a pistol and snapped it twice in Mr. O'Neal's face. Mr. O'Neal turned to find some weapon for defense and the negro fired, the bullet entering the skull at the base of the brain. Mr. O'Neal was rushed to a hospital in Greenville, where the bullet was extracted and medical attention was administered. It is thought he will recover.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY BOSS "POSSE"

2-19-31

He Rebelled Against Forced Labor; Killed

CLARKSDALE, Miss., Feb. 18.—George Spann, Negro tenant farmer who, in revolt against the system of forced labor under which he was held as a slave without liberty to leave the plantation of his landlord, shot and seriously wounded Charles O'Neal, the landlord, was killed yesterday by a mob, supported by the sheriff of the county.

Spann was hunted down with bloodhounds by a mob which made no secret of its intention to lynch him. O'Neal and E. W. Williams, dep-

uty sheriffs, led the mob.

A number of other Negroes who had been rounded up by the sheriff deputies in a terroristic attack on the Negro population here were released following the lynching of Spann.

The boss papers boast that "everything is quiet" and "no further trouble is feared," intimating that the local Negroes are too cowed by the brutal reign of terror directed against them by the white ruling class to attempt to defend themselves against this vicious attack.

Armed Posse Hunts Negro In Mississippi

5-4-31

MERIDIAN, MISS., May 3.—(P)—An armed posse of several hundred citizens headed by Sheriff Matt J. Stone, deputies and police, followed bloodhounds in pursuit of an unidentified negro over many miles South of the city today.

The negro was wanted for an alleged attempted attack on a 10-year-old child. The hounds lost the trail and the hunt was abandoned.

The child's screams when she was being dragged from the road into the woods near her home attracted her father but when he reached his daughter the negro had fled through the woods. The little girl's only injury was a bruised shoulder where the negro had grabbed her.

News of the attempted attack spread rapidly and when the county officers reached the home of the child a large number of citizens had already gathered, all armed, and the chase with the bloodhounds was an exciting one.

PLANTER IS ASSAULTED

Negro Farm Hand Held After Chase Near Mount Olive, Miss.

5-23-31

MOUNT OLIVE, Miss., May 22.—Jim Polk, merchant of Mount Olive and prominent planter residing eight miles from town, was seriously injured early this morning when he was assaulted by Mack Phillips, negro tenant, who used a shovel to beat Polk on the head.

Phillips is in jail at Prentiss awaiting the outcome of Polk's injuries. He was captured three miles from Prentiss after a chase led by bloodhounds.

The negro became enraged when reprimanded because he had left his work. The attack occurred in the stables on the Polk farm and Polk was found unconscious by another negro farm hand, who reported it. Sheriff William J. Warren led the posse that captured the negro.

Farmer Shot By Negro Is In Serious Condition

8-22-31

GREENVILLE, MISS., Aug. 21.—(P)—

With one negro jailed and officers close on the trail of the second, the condition tonight of B. J. Fulcher, 47-year-old plantation manager shot down yesterday, took a turn for the worse and physicians were planning to resort to blood transfusion to save his life.

Jake Washington, 40-year-old negro, was surrounded and captured early today in the swamp a few miles from Stringtown, where the shooting occurred as the result, officers said, of negroes resenting being dismissed from the Bald Back plantation. Bollivar County officers spirited Washington away and lodged him for safety in the jail at Cleveland.

Ed Wise, the other negro sought, was reported late today to have been seen in the woods half a mile from Stringtown. The posse immediately spread a net about the section and his capture was expected shortly. Both negroes are middle-aged.

The sheriff's office at Cleveland, where Washington is incarcerated, said the town was quiet with no indication of impending violence.

NEGRO IS TRAPPED BY POSSE OF 300

Appalachian

Slayer of Deputy O. M. Riddell, Indianola, Is Believed

Surrounded, Memphis

INDIANOLA, Miss., Sept. 9.—Henry Belton, negro, who fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff O. M. Riddell, on Monday night, when the officer sought to arrest him, was believed surrounded tonight near Baird by a posse of 300 men.

Belton has been trailed in this and adjacent counties since the shooting. Mr. Riddell died early last night in a Greenville hospital.

Funeral services for the slain officer were held here this afternoon.

MISSISSIPPI EDITOR LIVES IN FEAR OF LIFE

After Anderson

JACKSON, Miss.—M. L. Rogers, editor of the Southern Register, lives in fear of his life and two of his printers have fled following threats

from white planters which came after he published an editorial denouncing the exploitation of colored laborers.

The warnings came after the Jackson Daily News printed an editorial branding Rogers as a trouble maker.

Mr. Rogers' editorial is printed below.

Summer is about gone, the crops have been made, the farmers in the Delta on the plantations have been almost starved to death by the landlords who would not furnish the croppers food for the last two months, July and August, forcing them to live on watermelons, peaches and whatever they could find, which has caused the death of some, while others, by the help of the Good Lord, got as much as 25c to 50c per day, which enabled them to eat. Now that it is just about cotton picking time, the Negroes are not willing to say on he plantations and pick out cotton after having been starved for the last two months after they made the crop. They know as soon as the cotton has been picked the same landlords will cut off their food supply and they will not have anything to live on during the cold winter months. We cannot wonder that a man with any blood in his veins would stand to be treated in such a manner. He has worked half his crop taken from him, somebody is going to pay for this in blood, as already one planter has been shot and almost fatally wounded for trying to make the Negro stay on his place and pick cotton. Fulcher was shot with a load of buckshot and is not likely to live (Fulcher died).

To coward the Negro as usual, hundreds are arching the woods and swamps with riot guns and bloodhounds looking for two Negroes who would not stand to be enslaved. It is getting to the place now that Negroes are going to demand a square deal in the walk of life at the cost of their lives, and somebody is going to die before things will be better for the race. From now on, for several months, you can expect to see in bold face type across the mast head of the daily papers: "Posse Hunts Black for Killing Planter."

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LOOKING FOR TROUBLE

The Daily News answered the Register editorial in the following manner: M. L. Rogers, editor of the Southern Register, a Negro newspaper published in this city, is evidently looking for trouble. If this is his objective, he won't encounter much trouble. This is quite certain if he continues the tenor of his editorial utterances.

The Daily News does not believe that threats of bloodshed and incendiary utterances such as are set forth in the above editorial, meet with the approval of the Negro race in Mississippi.

It is therefore up to them to suppress Rogers. Racial harmony in Mississippi demands that they do so.

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Posses Fail To Catch Alleged Negro Slayer

12-1-31

TYLERTOWN, MISS., Dec. 12.—(P)—As darkness fell officers and citizens' posses who had been searching all day throughout Walthall County for the negro slayer of Marshall Carr, a large South Mississippi plantation owner, had failed to make the capture.

Led by the sheriff, the citizenry was combing the section for Alton Williams, a heavy set negro described as about 38 years old and weighing 160 pounds. The search had spread into adjoining parishes and officers of all nearby towns were warned to be on the watchout for the man.

Williams was accused of getting his shotgun and shooting Carr, his employer, to death after Carr had sought to settle a fight and a shooting between Williams and another negro on the Carr plantation.

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Mississippi Posse Kills Bank Bandit

12-6-31
EDWARDS, MISS., Dec. 5.—(P)—A vengeful posse of Edwards citizens killed one bank bandit and was reported to have run two others to earth in a woods south of here tonight, after the trio attempted to rob the Bank of Edwards and kidnaped the cashier at noon today.

The pockets of the slain bandit held a card bearing the name "Joseph J. Blaze, Star Products and Egg Company, 514 Illinois Avenue, East St. Louis, Ill." A deputy constable's badge of St. Louis County was also in his pocket. The body was taken to Jackson.

C. D. Noble, a filling station operator, and one of the leaders of the posse, was wounded in the head when the bandits fired on citizens who had surrounded them in the bank. He was not seriously injured.

The cashier, W. A. Montgomery, was found after the robbery with the body of the slain bandit in the abandoned automobile of the robbers.

Lynchings-1931

Side Lights.

NEW JERSEY BIBLE BELT MOB

ATTACK, TRY LYNCH NEGRO WORKER

2-20-31

Boss Police Arrest Victim Only; Boss Press Peddles Lie of Attack on White Girl—Protest Meeting Tonight

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., Feb. 19.—This city, situated in the bible belt of New Jersey and the scene recently of an evolution controversy, was the center yesterday afternoon of a vicious attack on a young Negro worker who was brutally beaten up and nearly lynched by a white mob for asking and accepting a glass of water from a white girl worker in one of the houses on Catalpa Ave.

The young Negro worker, Ignatius Du Busson, had got a temporary job as a street cleaner, his first job in many months. He was working in Catalpa Ave. yesterday. Getting thirsty, he went to one of the houses and asked a servant girl for a drink of water. Returning to his work he was questioned by the foreman as to what he had to say to the white girl. Undeveloped white workers, suffering from the influence of the rotten boss ideology of race hatred, and egged on by the foreman, began pelting the Negro worker with stones. Du Busson tried to escape from the mob, and was felled by a particularly heavy stone thrown by the foreman. The mob jumped on him, savagely kicking and beating him, while the foreman called for a lynching.

At this stage police arrived and arrested the victim of mob violence, took him to the station and locked him up on a charge of disorderly conduct. No member of the mob was arrested.

The boss press took up the hue and cry against the Negro worker, peddling the vicious lie that in broad daylight and in a busy thoroughfare he had attempted to rape the girl. Du Busson was held by the bosses' court for trial and was held over for a hearing on Tuesday. The girl was brought to court and made to testify against him, but contradicted herself so badly that only a boss court intent on fostering the hatred and persecution of Negro workers would have accepted such testimony. The boss press is carrying articles with huge headlines in the attempt to whip

Militant white workers have called a protest meeting for this evening at the Workers' Home, 308 Elm St., at 8:30 o'clock, to expose this boss-inspired attack on the Negro masses.

COPS SAVE MAN FROM N. J. MOB

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., Feb. 26—(ANP)—Police Lieut. Frank Kasprzak saved Ignatius DeBusson from being lynched by a mob of infuriated whites here on Wednesday when he held at bay the men who were bent upon beating the man to death.

The story goes that DuBusson, who has no police record, was recently employed as a street cleaner. Wednesday afternoon he went into a house in his district and asked the servant girl for a drink of water. He followed her to the rear of the house and a few minutes later neighbors heard the girl screaming.

A large group of men rushed into the house and, according to their stories, found DuBusson beating the girl. He ran out of the back door with the mob on his heels. Stones were thrown at him and one of them struck him, felling him to the ground.

Seeing him incapacitated, the members of the mob rushed up to him and began beating him unmercifully. Lieutenant Kasprzak came to the fallen man's rescue and with drawn revolver held his attackers at bay until reserve forces arrived. The arrival of the reserves was in the nick of time, as the mob

was planning to rush the officer when his aides appeared on the scene.

DuBusson was locked up at police headquarters on a technical charge of disorderly conduct.

POLICE RESCUE NEGRO

STONED BY JERSEY MOB

New York Times

Riot Squad Called When He Is

Beaten in Perth Amboy, Scene

of Recent Evolution Row.

New York, N. Y.

Special to The New York Times.

PERTH AMBOY, Feb. 18.—With drawn pistol, Police Lieutenant Frank Kasprzak saved a 25-year-old Negro, Ignatius Du Busson, from the fury of a mob which had severely beaten Du Busson and threatened to lynch him, here this afternoon.

This city was the scene of a recent evolution controversy, when "A Child's History of the World" was removed from the reference shelves of the public schools because objection had been made to the manner in which the book described the life of pre-historic man.

Only with the arrival of a motorcycle policeman and a police riot squad, was it possible for Lieutenant Kasprzak to remove Du Busson safely to police headquarters. Some members of the crowd, it was said, had threatened to rush Kasprzak when the reserves arrived.

Du Busson, who lives in Grand Street here and has been unemployed for some time, had obtained a temporary job street cleaning from the city employment agency. He was working in Catalpa Avenue this afternoon.

He was seen going to a house near where he was working. There, according to the police, he asked a girl servant, whose name the police refused to divulge, for a drink of water. She gave it to him and when she went back into the house, he followed her, the police said.

More than a dozen men who were working in the street heard the girl screaming. They rushed into the house and found Du Busson beating the girl, according to the police version. They dragged him outside where he made a break for liberty.

As he fled, the mob pelted him with stones until a particularly heavy missile brought him down. Recapturing him, some of the members set upon him, while others advocated hanging him. Du Busson's terror-stricken screams, however, attracted the attention of the police lieutenant.

Du Busson was locked up at police

headquarters on a technical charge of disorderly conduct. He will be arraigned before Recorder Harold E. Pickersgill tomorrow. He has no previous police record.

JERSEY MAN SLAIN;

YOUTH FIGHTS POSSE

New York Times

100 Shots Fired in Half-Hour

Battle in Woods Before Nine

Bullets Drop Suspect.

4-6-31

CRUEL KILLING SPURS HUNT

New York, N. Y.

South Merchantville Resident Shot

In a Hold-Up Attempt, Beaten,

Dragged to Field and Killed.

Special to The New York Times.

SOUTH MERCHANTVILLE, N. J.,

April 5.—A half-hour gun battle between a posse and a youth suspected of having killed a local restaurant proprietor in a hold-up ended shortly before 8 o'clock this morning after 100 shots had been fired when the suspect fell critically wounded by nine bullets.

The youth had almost run into the arms of the posse at the outskirts of a wood near Marlton Pike while fleeing from Police Chief John S. Branin of Delaware Township. Chief Branin, summoned on the murder alarm, stopped him as he crossed the pike near his car. The youth opened fire on Branin and fled after he had emptied his revolver.

In the hold-up three hours before, George McGuire, 53 years old, who had opened a restaurant after retiring as justice of the peace here some years ago, was shot through the back when the bandit was unable to force him to tell where he had concealed his money.

McGuire fled from the gunman but, weakened by his wounds, dropped after he had run 1,000 feet.

"Help, Munson, help!" he yelled to attract the attention of his nearest neighbor, whose house he had almost reached. The gunman rushed after him, beat him with his pistol to stifle his screams and dragged him to a near-by field. There he shot him again, killing him, and fled.

The neighbor, William Munson, awakened by the first shot, watched all this from his window, but did not go to McGuire's aid since he was unarmed. He telephoned the police.

While a squad of policemen, who had answered Munson's call, reconstructed the crime at McGuire's bungalow in Beechwood Avenue on the outskirts of the town, Peter Es-

posito, 34 years old, who lives a half mile away, reported seeing a man flee into the woods.

A posse of policemen and citizens was organized and it proceeded to scour the woods. An alarm was sent out and Chief Branin was notified of the killing. As the chief was driving to the scene on Marlton Pike he noticed a young man coming from the woods and signaled to him. The youth stopped.

"Know anything about the killing of McGuire?" the chief asked, intending to question the youth further until he was satisfied as to his identity.

The young man darted behind a tree, whipped out a .45 calibre revolver and opened fire. Chief Branin, who had stepped from his car, ran behind it and returned the fire. The youth emptied his pistol, then fled into the woods.

Chief Branin gave the alarm and was joined by the posse. The clump of woods was searched and about a mile from the scene of the murder the youth was surrounded. Again he opened fire and the members of the posse, at a command from the chief, dropped on their stomachs and sought shelter behind rocks, stumps and trees.

A battle reminiscent of old-time Indian warfare began. Shots rained on the youth from all sides. Now and then a curse was heard from him, indicating a "hit." One shot tore through Chief Branin's coat sleeve, grazing his arm. Another shot the cap from the head of Chief Branin's aide, Policeman John Plaskett, as the latter tried to advance.

After a half hour, during which the chief had reloaded three times, the chief resorted to a ruse. While the fugitive's attention was attracted to another side of the field, Branin and Plaskett chanced a steady running fire. The youth was felled.

Taken to the West Jersey Homeopathic Hospital in Camden, the youth was identified as W. Linton Dowdy, 25 years old, of Baltimore, Md., by his mother, Mrs. William Cann, of this village.

Although he was in a dying condition, he denied to the police that he had had any part in the murder and told them: "I'll attend to you for shooting me."

His mother said he had been the black sheep of the family and had previously stolen automobiles and had got into scrapes with the police.

He came up from Baltimore on Friday, she said, and visited her last night. He told her he had been working in a research laboratory of Johns Hopkins Hospital there. In exhibiting his revolver, he had told her, she said, that it was given to him by a Dr. Gaunt of 1,212 North Colford Street, Baltimore. The police surmised that he had stolen it.

3587

New Jersey

Lynchings - 1931

Side Lights
STANDARD UNION

B'klyn, N.Y.

AUG 21 1931

Lynching of Two Brothers

Free in Slaying, Called
Off on Account of Rain

ST. CLAIREVILLE, O., Aug. 21 (UP) — A lynching party planned for two brothers free on bail on second degree murder charges here was called off on account of rain.

A mob of 100 men started out yesterday to lynch Alvin and Jesse Morris, alleged slayers of their brother-in-law, Emil Van Dyne, a World War veteran.

Van Dyne had been beaten to death after he "hung around his estranged wife."

Deputy sheriffs learned of the mob. They trailed it part way to the Morris home.

The would-be lynchers were found cowering under a covered bridge, where a driving rain had cooled their anger. The sheriff's office issued no rain checks.

Ohio

3588

Lynchings-1931
Side Lights.

Oklahoma

3589

PRISONER TAKEN TO SCENE OF CRIME AND CRUELLY TREATED FOR NOT CONFESSING TO CRIME

Tulsa, Okla., Feb. 11 (CNA)—In an endeavor to force young Willie Ems to confess to a crime he denied knowledge of, Tulsa police burned the flesh of this young boy until the stench of burning flesh permeated the halls and stairways of the police station and the shrieks of the tortured boy rended the air. The boy was then placed in the city jail for the night and denied medical attention.

Next day the police took him to the scene of the crime he was charged with committing, placed a rope around his neck and strung him up. They kept him in the air until he was half dead, then they lowered him to the ground. Failing to force a confession out of him, they strung him up once more. Enraged when the youth still refused to confess to the crime he did not commit, the police savagely beat him up with the rope they had used for the hangings. The nearly dead boy was then returned to the city jail.

His recovery is thought unlikely.

The International Labor Defense is mobilizing workers in defense corps to protect themselves from police brutality and to force Ems' release.

Lynchings-1931

Side Lights.

South Carolina.

3590

FATHER AND FIVE CHILDREN SHOT BY PLANTATION BOSS

Four-Year-Old Girl Victim
Is Expected To Die As
Result Of Fury Of Race
Hate

WENT HOME FOR SHOT GUN

Became Enraged When The
Tenant "Talked Back To
Back" To Him. Shot Up
Home

Special to the St. Louis Argus.

GREENSBORO, S. C., Oct. 1 —
Angered because one of his tenant
farmers "talked back to him," Broadus
Hughes, 40-year old white plan-
tation boss, shot and wounded six
colored persons on a plantation
near here, Wednesday. One of the
victims was a baby and two young
girls.

Got His Shotgun

Those shot are Will Jones, 65,
and his children, Odus, 19, Eldred
15, Clara, 12, Isabel four, and An-
nie, 14 months. Isabel was wounded
probably fatally. The wounds of
the others were serious.

Hughes told officers he was get-
ting a drink of water from a spring
near his home and Odus threaten-
ed him with a knife telling him not
to drink from the spring.

He said he went home, got his
and another of the victims in an
adjoining field and then went to
their homes and shot the other four.

Hughes was jailed to await a
hearing on charges of assault with
intent to kill.

Shoots Family of
Six, One a Baby,
After Argument

GREENWOOD, S. C., Oct. 9.—

Following an altercation at a
spring, where he said he went to
get a drink of water, Broadus
Hughes, 40, a white farmer, became
angered and, according to reports,
shot and wounded Will Jones, 65,
and his five children, ranging from
4 to 19 years of age. Isabel, the
baby, was probably fatally injured.

Hughes, who was placed under
arrest, is said to have told police
that Odus Jones, one of the boys
he shot, threatened him with a
knife when he went to the spring.
Hughes says he went home after
his shotgun, shot Odus and one
other in the field, and then went to
the Jones home, where he shot the
other four.

MEMPHIS DOCTOR PUT ON SPOT IN POLITICAL FEUD

Mad White Cop Named

in Kidnapping of Dr. Thomas.

2:00 A.M. CALL

and Shot in

Lonely Lane.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The

growing little suburban vil-

lage of Orange Mound woke

up last Wednesday morning

to find itself the center of a

Memphis political feud and

one of its leading physicians,

Dr. D. H. Thomas, kidnapped

and "put on the spot."

As a result, the doctor, who was

lured from his home by a fake call

for medical help and halted on a lone-

ly road, has a badly beaten head and

a pistol ball through one of his hands.

Cop Blamed

In a statement at Collins Chapel

Hospital, Dr. Thomas gave the fol-

lowing story of the near tragedy:

"At 2:30 Wednesday morning I was

called to the door of my home, where

a man who told me his sister had tried

to commit an abortion and was suf-

fering severe pain. I hurried out with

her to give the supposed patient

relief.

"As the automobile in which we

were driving approached a lonely sec-

tion of Carnes Avenue, the man told

me that we would have to walk a

short distance as the roadway had

been torn up for repairs. I got out

with the man, and immediately there

struck the doctor in the hand.

The Rev. J. L. Campbell, who Dr.

Thomas said was mentioned by the

white man who joined in beating him,

is a well known Memphis pastor.

According to R. E. Harshaw, Jr.,

editor of the Mid-South Liberator, the

Rev. Mr. Campbell has been openly

opposing the political cause of Pa-

trolman H. G. Crum, white, who has

become known as a political "boss" in

Orange Mound. Thomas, who heads

the Orange Mound Booster's Club,

has opposed what he called the dom-

inating influence of the white police-

man.

Is Asked Out

At a recent meeting of the Booster's

Club, Crum, who is white, was asked

out when he insisted on representing

the Orange Mound group in a pro-

posed conference with the city au-

thorities. He advised the club, it was

said, that it would be best for him to

represent them, rather than that they

should send a representative of their

own.

According to Dr. Thomas, Crum has

become a political czar. Although it

is said he had the backing of a num-

ber of the underworld and bootleg-

ging fraternity, the voting element of

the community came out in open

fight against him recently when he

was said to have been seen in the

company of a colored girl here.

Campbell Flayed

The Rev. J. G. Campbell was also

flayed here some time ago when he

openly espoused the cause of Crum.

The minister was quoted by Editor

Harshaw as declaring that "it was

best for the colored people to stick to

the white folk because if they should

close down their jobs on us, we would

perish."

Dr. Thomas, who has been living in

Orange Mound since he started out

his medical practice fifteen years ago,

is regarded as one of the leading

physicians of this section. Orange

Mound, while almost wholly colored in

population, is a part of the 29th Ward

of the city of Memphis and has be-

come a big factor in the political life

of the city.

Lynchings-1931

Side Lights.

Posses Searching For Slayer Of School Girl

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, April 23.—(AP)—Bloodhounds, armed posses, and peace officers searched tonight for a 20-year-old San Antonio man suspected as the slayer of Edna Merle Springer, 11-year-old school girl, whose butchered body was found last night near Lening.

The search turned to San Antonio after a dairyman reported he brought the suspect and a small boy from Thelma, Texas, to San Antonio. He said he knew nothing of the girl's death at the time.

Edna was last seen alive as she was walking home from school yesterday afternoon.

A pair of overalls smeared with blood, found hidden in a camp bunk near the spot where the body was found, gave officers the clue on which the hunt for the San Antonio suspect was begun.

PASTOR 'HANGED' IN OWN CHURCH

Dissension Among Some Of
Congregation Is Held Responsible For Attack

DALLAS, TEXAS, June 18.—(AP)—B. P. Brown, part-time preacher and hotel baggage man, who was stripped of his clothes by four masked men early today and hanged to a chandelier above the pulpit in the North Dallas Baptist Church, tonight plamed dissension among members of the congregation for the attack.

The hanging, he said the men told him, was "an example" to his pastor, the Rev. H. P. Marley. A former member of the church who recently resigned as a deacon was arrested this afternoon for questioning.

"We've had trouble at the church, all right," Brown, supply pastor at the church, told newspapermen. "Some of the members want Brother Marley to resign. They don't like me, either, but they are going to have a hard time running me off."

Brown said he and Mr. Marley had received threatening letters during the last three months. Federal postal authorities were expected to investigate this angle.

The volunteer preacher said he was abducted shortly after midnight after leaving the hotel where he works.

"They tied my hands behind my back and tied my feet together," he related. "A noose was put about my neck and the other end of the rope was thrown over a chandelier."

"After pulling me off the floor, they put a folding chair under my feet, just

below the tips of my toes. As they went away, one of them told me the chair wouldn't hold my weight even if I got my feet on it."

He said he kicked about and the rope stretched until his feet rested on the chair when he stood on tiptoe. He tore off strips of adhesive tape covering his mouth and began calling for help.

About three hours later he was rescued. He suffered no serious injury.

Part-Time Pastor Hanged In Church; Saved From Death

DALLAS, Texas, June 18.—(UP)

The Rev. B. P. Brown, Baptist preacher, who was hanged in his own church and whose life was saved only because the new rope used stretched and allowed his toes to touch a chair, tonight described his feelings while on the verge of death.

He was cut down from the rope in the pulpit of the North Baptist church, nude, and taken to his home where he received reporters while police arrested a former deacon of the church, suspected of writing threatening letters to him and to the Rev. Homer Marley, regular pastor of the church.

"Apparently the four hangmen intended that my body should be found hanging over the pulpit when the Rev. Marley came down to open services," said Brown, feeling of his neck which had been seared by the hemp rope.

"We are holding revival services every day. It was a hideous plot and it was carried out with hideous efficiency, but the Lord was looking out for His children."

The Rev. Brown, 30, works as night baggage clerk at the Adolphus hotel to add to his ministerial earnings. His story of the attempted hanging follows:

"I work at the hotel every night until 12 o'clock. Last night I took the bus for home as usual. When I got off to go home a man ran up to me and said 'If you run I'll shoot you dead.'"

"He made me go with him to the church and pushed me through one of the basement windows. Then he made me go into the main auditorium. Three other men waited for us. All four were masked."

"Two of them grabbed me and stripped me of my clothes. It was a warm night, but I shivered. One man produced a new rope."

"Have you any dying request to make?" one of them asked. It was my first intimation they intended to kill me.

"I told them my wife knew what my dying request was. They tied up my feet and hands, put adhesive tape over my mouth and carried me naked to the pulpit."

"They flung the rope over the

chandelier and strung me up by my neck, leaving me to die.

"I began to strangle and memories of the past raced through my mind. I could visualize the strange gap between life and death."

"Those thoughts were brief, however, as I realized my whole energy should be used trying to escape."

"And then the rope sagged and my toes touched the edge of a chair. I was saved. I struggled for four hours and was almost free when the officers arrived."

Mrs. Brown had called police when her husband failed to arrive home at his regular time.

Police said they believed the attack upon the Rev. Brown was the outgrowth of a church quarrel which started because the Rev. Marley had been criticized for reading his sermons and which then had spread to other disputes over finances, expenditures and organization.

NEGROES SOUGHT AFTER SHOOTING

Two Officers Seriously Wounded
While Taking Prisoners

To Jail

MAGNOLIA, TEXAS, Aug. 5.—(AP)—A posse of almost 200 heavily armed citizens were beating the brush in this section of Montgomery County early tonight in search of two handcuffed negroes who escaped into the thickets after a constable and a justice of the peace were shot and wounded seriously.

The negroes had been manacled together, being arrested by the constable at Myrtle's Slough, eight miles from Montgomery, and still wore irons when they re-escaped after the officers were shot.

The wounded officers are T. J. Beatt, 39, constable who suffered a bullet wound through the head.

Berle H. Dulaney, justice of the peace, who was shot through the head and chest.

Both were rushed to a hospital in Houston where operations were being performed in an effort to save their lives.

The shooting occurred on the Huffman-Conroe Highway, 30 miles north of Houston.

Sheriff T. A. Binford, of Harris County, was notified immediately after the shooting this afternoon and departed for the scene with a number of his deputies.

Sheriff Ben Hicks, of Montgomery County, with a posse of officers and citizens were already on the scene of the shooting and were scouring the thick underbrush for the negroes. Incensed by the shooting more than a hundred citizens of the county armed themselves to aid in the hunt.

The negroes were armed with a revolver snatched from Constable Beatt's holster. According to the two officers, the shooting occurred while the prisoners were being taken to Montgomery. The negroes were in the back seat, handcuffed together, and the two officers were in the front, Dulaney driving. Suddenly one of the negroes seized Beatt's gun and fired. He slumped to the seat, critically wounded.

MANACLED NEGROES SHOOT TWO OFFICERS

200 Heavily Armed Texas

Citizens Seek Prisoners.

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Negro Sought For Death Of Officer Caught

MAGNOLIA, TEXAS, Aug. 5.—(AP)

Almost exhausted, his clothing torn and feet bleeding from a five-mile race ahead of a pack of bloodhounds, George Tolson, second of two negroes sought in connection with the slaying of Constable Tom Beyett and the wounding of Justice of the Peace B. H. Dulaney yesterday afternoon, was captured near Spring at 6 p.m. today.

Tolson was captured by Albert Walters, a farmer on the banks of Walters Lake, a few miles from Spring, after the negro had eluded a posse of more than 200 men near Willow Creek Church and ran through the weeds for five miles with a pack of hounds from the prison at Huntsville baying on his trail.

The possemen were close behind the fleeing negro when Walters captured him as he was sitting on a log.

Negro Worker Wanted For Murder Is Killed

ORANGE, TEXAS, Dec. 14.—(AP)—A

fussillade from a sheriff's posse 12 miles north of here this afternoon killed E. B. Cox, negro section worker, wanted for murder of Henry Wallles, prominent Orange County stockman.

Wallles was shot to death yesterday after an argument over theft of a gun. The negro was shot when possemen said they heard him raise the hammer of his shotgun.

The negro hid in the mashes last night, wading in water waist deep throughout the cold night.

Lynchings - 1931

Side Lights

SEXY VA. MOB LYNCH WOMAN AT FRANKTOWN

Afro American
FRANKTOWN, Va.—Because she stood firmly against a number of white men taking her daughter out riding, a mob of whites broke into the home of Mrs. Jane Wise, 50, at Bamore, took her out and lynched her Saturday night, it was learned this week. 5-16-31

The body of the murdered woman was found Sunday by a six-year-old white boy. *Bammore, Md.*

Cooking Dinner
Mrs. Wise, who came here some time ago from North Carolina, was cooking dinner when the mob came to the house around 9:30 p.m. On the previous Monday she had intervened when white men wanted to take her daughter out riding.

Posse Seeks Slayer Of *Courier* Aged Man *Pittsburgh, Pa*

BOWLING GREEN, Va., Dec. 24—(ANP)—White and black citizens formed a posse here Friday morning to run down Peachy Carter, 20-year-old knife slayer of Warner Chiles, 67-year-old widower, who lived about two miles from this town. Late Friday afternoon Carter is reported to have been sighted and fired at, but apparently was not hit and escaped his pursuers. 12-26-31

Chiles, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of the community both among colored and white people, was stabbed, it is alleged, by Carter, when he ordered the latter and several other young men off his place. The young men had been visiting with Chiles' daughter on the second floor of the home. The father asked them out of the home when they became unruly, but once they were on the outside they began to taunt him and he ordered them off his grounds. Carter then stabbed him, according to report.

Virginia
6

3593

Lynchings-1931

Side Lights

the hearing the following morning
they were fined a total of \$520.

Virginia

3594

**CHURCH MEMBERS
HALT PRAYERS,**

TRY LYNCHING

Baltimore,

500 of 3,000 at Camp
meeting Set Virginia
Town in Uproar.

10-11-31

ROPE SECURED

**Fines Alone Cost Wor-
shippers \$520.**

MILLWOOD, Va. — A
camp meeting almost turned
into a lynching bee here last
week when officers used
their guns to stand off a
crowd of 500 who sought to
mob George Tracy, of Bloom-
field, who was said to have
shot Melvin Anderson, of
Middleburg.

The disturbance which set the camp
meeting in an uproar, followed a se-
ries of fights, it was said, as a result
of the sale of bootleg whiskey in the
vicinity of the meeting.

Hears Gun Report

A traffic officer was directing traf-
fic near the camp meeting grounds
and church when he heard the re-
port of a gun. Looking in that direc-
tion he saw Tracy fleeing from the
place. Halting him at the point of
his pistol the officer placed the flee-
ing man under arrest and investiga-
tion showed that he had shot Ander-
son.

A few minutes after the crowd at
the church found that Tracy was be-
ing held by the officer, some of them
secured a rope and, augmented to the
number of nearly five hundred, they
surrounded the officer and his pris-
oner.

When the officer sensed the serious
threat the crowd was making to lynch
Tracy, he opened fire and forced his
way through to where his car was
standing. Tracy was finally placed in
it.

Many Fined

Following this arrest officers went
back to the camp meeting and round-
ed up ten men whom were said to
have been engaged in the fights. At

Lynchings - 1931

States, Special
FAIRMONT, MINN
SENTINEL

JAN 30 1931

7 LYNCHINGS ON STATE'S RECORD

National Check Shows 4,287
Killings From 1889
to 1929.

The lynching of Charles Bannon, Schafer, N. D., recalled today that there have been 4,287 such affairs in the United States in the past 45 years, of the victims 1,049 were white men and 3,228 Negroes, says the Associated Press.

Lynchings in northwest states from 1889 to 1929, inclusive:

	White men	Negroes	Total
Minnesota	4	3	7
North Dakota	10	1	11
South Dakota	18		18
Wisconsin	4		4
Iowa	7	1	8
Montana	30	1	31

The figures for North Dakota do not include the Bannon affair, which brings the number of lynchings in the state up to twelve since 1889.

Hungarian censors have banned five percent of the films passed upon by them during the last ten years.

Pioneer
Bowman, N. D.

FEB 5 1931

12 LYNCHED IN N. D. SINCE '88

Bridges have been a favored instrument of death when North Dakota mobs took the law in their own hands, scattering stories of lynchings over a half century recently.

Since 1885 one Negro and eleven white men have been lynched in North Dakota.

white men have been lynched in North Dakota.

With little data available a survey conducted by the Fargo Forum brings to light mob violence wherein seven prisoners went to their death.

In all instances except one in Emmons county where three Indians were hanged, single individuals have lost their lives.

The earliest story concerns a Negro, Charles Phurber, who was taken from a Grand Forks county jail and hanged from bridge girders of the span across the Red River. Phurber was charged with attacking two white women, one a girl of 14. Jailed Oct. 23, a milling crowd stormed the bars Oct. 25 shortly after midnight.

Another story concerns a bridge killing at Wahpeton. A former Cass county deputy sheriff was cast from a span there by a mob after he was charged with attacking a Richland county woman.

In 1897 the triple killing of Indians took place. Emmons county residents outraged by the killing of a family of six at Wadena, entered the jail at Williamsport where the three were quartered and hanged them from a meat rack near the courthouse.

The three were Philip Ireland, Alex Caudatte and Paul Holytrack. The lynching rate for the state barely averted rising two more on the same incident. Two accomplices of the three men hanged were quartered in the Bismarck jail. A mob, formed in that city to kill the two men, dissipated when one of the leaders died after accidentally drinking ammonia.

Not content with hanging Geo. Baker, accused of killing his wife and father-in-law, a furious Kidder county mob riddled his body with bullets as it hung from a stanchion in the Steele stockyards. That was in 1912. The mob entered the county jail and took its prisoner while he was awaiting trial for the double murder.

In 1913 came the next lynching of record.

Cleve Cubertson convicted of murdering D. Dillon, his wife and daughter at Ray, N. D., was hanged from a bridge over the little Missouri east of Williston.

It was the second mob to form which took Culbertson's life. One mob, formed during the trial, was

persuaded to let justice run its course. But immediately after the conviction lynch rule prevailed.

Information as to other instances of mob violence were lacking today, but figures compiled indicate that the lynch victim rate in North Dakota is about two-thirds that of the United States for the 40 year period between 1889 and 1929, according to statistics in the World Almanac.

North Dakota is listed with 11 lynchings during that time, while the total for the country is 3,053 the victims largely being negroes in southern states. On the basis of relative population, the lynch rate in North Dakota for the 40 years is 1.6 persons per 100,000 and for the U. S. 2.5 persons per 100,000.

Lewis F. Crawford, now of Fargo, former state historian, recalled today that in 1884 the "stranglers," a band of outraged cattle owners from Montana, made a sweep down the Missouri river, lynching persons suspected of cattle rustling and while the toll taken was never known, it is believed by Crawford to have been at least 8 or 10. Some estimates of their hangings ran well over 50, but this figure is believed by Mr. Crawford to be beyond reason.

3406

Lynchings - 1931

3405

Total by Years.

LYNCHINGS IN THE UNITED

STATES SINCE 1885

Compiled for the 1931 World Almanac, by
Monroe N. Work, head of the Research and
Record Department of the Tuskegee Normal
and Industrial Institute and editor of the
Negro Year Book. August, 1931

Year	White	Negro	Total
1885	106	78	184
1886	67	71	138
1887	42	80	122
1888	47	95	142
1889	81	95	176
1890	37	90	127
1891	71	121	192
1892	100	155	255
1893	46	154	200
1894	56	134	190
1895	59	112	171
1896	51	80	131
1897	44	122	166
1898	25	102	127
1899	23	84	107
1900	8	107	115
1901	28	107	135
1902	10	86	96
1903	18	86	104
1904	4	83	87
1905	5	61	66
1906	8	64	72
1907	3	60	63
1908	7	93	100
1909	14	73	87
1910	9	65	74
1911	8	63	71
1912	4	60	64
1913	1	51	52
1914	3	49	52
1915	13	54	67
1916	4	50	54
1917	2	36	38
1918	4	60	64
1919	7	76	83
1920	8	53	61
1921	5	59	64
1922	6	51	57
1923	4	29	33
1924	0	16	16
1925	0	17	17
1926	7	23	30
1927	0	16	16
1928	1	10	11
1929	3	7	10
1930	1	24	25
Total	1,050	3,252	4,312